

F U R T H E R P A P E R S

RESPECTING

T H E C A S E

O F

T H E R A J A O F S A T T A R A .

L O N D O N :

PRINTED IN CONFORMITY WITH A RESOLUTION OF THE GENERAL COURT OF
PROPRIETORS OF EAST-INDIA STOCK OF THE 23RD JUNE, 1841,

BY J. L. COX AND SONS, 75, GREAT QUEEN STREET.

.1841.

AT A
GENERAL COURT

OF THE
EAST-INDIA COMPANY,

Held on Wednesday, the 23rd of June, 1841,

IT WAS

RESOLVED, That the following Papers, already before the Court, respecting the case of the ex-Raja of Sattara, be printed for the use of the Proprietors : *viz.*—

Political Consultations, forming Vol. XII. of the Sattara Papers.

Letters from W. H. Macnaghten, Esq., Secretary to the Government of India, to W. H. Wathen, Esq., Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay, dated the 2nd and 16th October, 1837.

That the following additional Papers, respecting the same case, be laid before this Court, and printed for the use of the Proprietors : *viz.*—

Copy of Treaty made between the Honourable Mountstuart Elphinstone and the Raja of Sattara, on the Establishment of the State of Sattara, in the year 1819.

Copy of Letters from the Vakeels of the ex-Raja of Sattara to the Court of Directors, dated the 26th November, 1839, and 7th January, 1840, with the Court's reply.

Copy of Petition from Meer Afzall Alee, Vakcel of the ex-Raja of Sattara, to the Court of Directors, dated the 14th September, 1840, with the Court's reply.

Copy of Letter from the Vakeels of the ex-Raja of Sattara to the Court of Directors, dated the 8th February, 1841.

Copy of a New Treaty (if any) with the present Raja of Sattara.

Copy of all Documents from the Government of Bombay to the Court of Directors, transmitting Documents from the Resident at Sattara, relative to the grant of certain jagheers to Ballajee Punt, and others, since the accession of the present Raja of Sattara.

LIST OF FURTHER PAPERS.

Treaty with Raja of Sattara dated 25th September	1819	PAGE 1
Schedule of Territory and Revenue ceded to Maharaj } 25th —	—	3
Pertaub Shean }		

EXTRACT BOMBAY POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

23rd August, 1820.

ENCLOSURES IN LETTER FROM AGENT AT SATTARA TO COMMISSIONER OF POONA,

Dated 25th May, 1820 :—

—B.—			
Terms of Agreement on part of Honourable Company for } dated 22nd April	1820	6	
U. P. Renooka Baee Dufflay, &c. }			
—B.—			
Agreement on part of Raja of Sattara respecting R. B. } —	—	8	
Dufflay, &c. }			
—C., No. 2.—			
Terms on part of Honourable Company for S. &c. Naik } —	—	11	
Nimbalkur, &c. }			
—D., No. 2.—			
Ditto ditto Rao S. M. M. Purseram, &c. —	—	13	
—C., No. 4.—			
Agreement on part of Raja of Sattara, respecting R. S. J. } —	—	14	
R. Naik Nimbalkur, &c. }			
—D., No. 4.—			
Ditto ditto respecting Rajee Sree Purseram, &c. —	—	17	
—E., No. 2.—			
Terms fixed on part of Honourable Company with M. M. } —	—	18	
Chimnajec, &c. Punt Suchew }			
—F., No. 4.—			
Agreement on part of Raja of Sattara respecting R. S. } —	—	20	
Chimnajec, &c. Punt Suchew }			

EXTRACT BOMBAY POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

4th October, 1820.

Extract Letter from Agent at Sattara to W. Chaplin, } dated 1st September	1820	22
Esq., &c. &c. }		

EXTRACT BOMBAY POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

29th August, 1827.

Letter from Resident at Sattara to Secretary to Government, dated 13th August (No. 68)	1827	22
Yad on part of his Highness to Resident without date	—	24
Minute by the President 24th August (No. 78)	—	26
Written to Punt Suchew through Persian Secretary without date (No. 79)	—	ib.
by Mr. Chief Secretary Newnham to Resident at } —	—	27
... .. }		

EXTRACT BOMBAY POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

19th September, 1832.

			PAGE
Letter from J. Warden, Esq., to Secretary to Government, dated 25th August (No. 3209) 1832			28
Ditto from ditto to Resident at Sattara ...	3rd —	—	31
Ditto from Resident at Sattara to J. Warden, Esq., &c.	13th —	—	32
Ditto from Mr. Chief Secretary Newnham to G. W. Anderson, Esq., &c.	16th April (No. 3211) 1827		33
Ditto from W. Chaplin, Esq., &c., to Mr. Chief Secretary Newnham	15th January (No. 10) 1825		<i>ib.</i>
Ditto from Mr. Chief Secretary Newnham to Commissioner in Deccan	24th — (No. 98) 1825		34
Extract ditto from late Commissioner in Deccan to Government	24th May — 1826		<i>ib.</i>
Letter from G. W. Anderson, Esq., to Mr. Secretary Norris	9th April — 1827		35
Ditto from Mr. Secretary Norris to J. A. Dunlop, Esq. ...	24th — (No. 643) —		<i>ib.</i>
Ditto from Mr. Secretary Bax to Resident at Sattara ...	13th Sept. (No. 3212) 1832		36

EXTRACT BOMBAY POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

10th October, 1832.

Letter from Lieut. Col. Lodwick to Mr. Secretary Bax... dated 19th Sept. (No. 3494) 1832			36
Copy of Letter from Honourable the Governor to the Punt	28th Aug. — 1827		37
Suchew	4th Oct. (No. 3495) 1832		38
Minute by Governor	— — —		<i>ib.</i>
Letter from Mr. Secretary Bax to Agent for Sirdars in the Deccan	— (No. 3497) —		39
Ditto from Mr. Secretary Bax to Resident at Sattara ...			

EXTRACT BOMBAY POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

11th March, 1835.

Extract Memorandum by Mr. Warden	dated 2nd Feb. (No. 545) 1835		39
Letter from C. Norris, Esq., to Resident at Sattara ...	9th Mar. (No. 548) —		46
Ditto from Lieut.-Col. Lodwick to C. Norris, Esq. ...	3rd July —		<i>ib.</i>
Ditto from ditto to Mr. Secretary Willoughby	20th June 1836		42
Substance of Conversation at interview with his Highness the Raja of Sattara, on 16th June, 1836	— —		43
Translation of Yad, No. 7, from his Highness the Raja of Sattara to the Resident... ..	16th — —		44
Minute by Governor, subscribed to by the Board ...	27th April 1837		45
Extract from Mr. Elphinstone's instructions to Capt. Grant	8th — 1818		52
Extract Letter from Resident, Poona, to Governor General	18th June —		<i>ib.</i>
Ditto from Chief Secretary of Supreme Government to Honourable Mr. Elphinstone	26th Sept. —		54
Extract Letter from Colonel Robertson, Resident at Sattara	31st Dec. 1831		<i>ib.</i>

EXTRACT BOMBAY POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

8th July, 1835.

Letter from Resident at Sattara to Secretary to Government, dated 24th June (No. 1725) 1835			6
Translation of Memorandum (No. 8) from his Highness the Raja to Resident at Sattara	15th —		

LIST OF PAPERS.

vii*

EXTRACT BOMBAY POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS, 24th May, 1837.

Letter from Acting Agent at Dharwar to Mr. Secretary Willoughby	dated 5th Dec. (No. 2210) 1835	PAGE 64
Ditto from Mr. Secretary Willoughby to Resident at Sattara	20th May (No. 2211) 1837	65

LETTERS FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA TO THE GOVERNMENT OF BOMBAY.

Letter from Secretary to Government of India to Chief Secretary Government of Bombay	dated 2nd Oct.	1837	66
Ditto from Mr. Secretary Macnaghten to Mr. Chief Secretary Wathen	16th —	—	68

CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN THE VAKEELS OF THE EX-RAJA OF SATTARA AND THE COURT OF DIRECTORS.

Letter from E. R. R. Sirkey, B. R. Wittul, and M. A. Aleex to Court of Directors	dated 26th Nov.	1839	70
Ditto from M. A. Aleex to Court of Directors	—	—	77
Translation of a Memorandum, No. 45, sent by Resident of Sattara to his Highness the Maharaj	21st Feb. (No. 2)	1839	85
Ditto from ditto No. 223, from the Maharaj Chutraputtee of Sattara... ..	—	—	ib.
Translation of Letter which accompanied address of Vakeels to the Court, dated 26th November, 1839, to Court of Directors from his Highness the ex-Raja of Sattara	10th Nov.	1838	86
Letter from J. C. Melvill, Esq., to Vakeels of the ex-Raja of Sattara	14th Dec.	1839	91
Ditto from Vakeels of ex-Raja of Sattara to Court of Directors	7th Jan.	1840	92
Petition from M. A. Aleex, Vakeel of ex-Raja of Sattara, to Court of Directors	14th Sept.	—	97
Letter from J. C. Melvill, Esq., to M. A. Aleex	7th Oct.	—	98
Ditto from the Vakeels of the ex-Raja of Sattara to Court of Directors	8th Feb.	1841	ib.
Translation of Letter from A. Luximun (one of the Assistant Treasurers of the deposed Raja of Sattara) to R. S. B. S. Raja Sirkey, at London	24th June	1840	110

Treaty between the Raja of Sattara and Honourable East-India Company	11th Sept.	1839	111
---	------------	------	-----

PAPERS RELATIVE TO THE GRANT OF ENAM LANDS TO BALLAJEE PUNT NATHOO.

Letter from Bombay Government to Court of Directors... ..	dated 27th Jan.	1841	112
---	-----------------	------	-----

EXTRACT BOMBAY POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

Dated 27th Jan. 1841.

			PAGE
Letter from Lieut.-Col. Ovens to Mr. Secretary Willoughby	dated 22nd Dec. (No. 528)	1840	113
Translation of Yad (No. 275) from Raja of Sattara to			
Resident	6th —	—	<i>ib.</i>
Certificates from Governors M. Elphinstone and Sir J. Malcolm, dated 18th November, 1827, and 3rd December, 1830	— —	—	114
Minute by Governor	9th Jan.	1841	115
Letter from Mr. Secretary Willoughby to Resident at Sattara	25th Jan. (No. 263)	—	116
Ditto from Court of Directors to Government of Bombay	7th April (No. 8)	—	<i>ib.</i>

(Signed) T. L. PEACOCK,

Examiner of India Correspondence.

East-India House,
July 7th, 1841.

SATTARA PAPERS.

TREATY WITH THE RAJA OF SATTARA,

Dated 25th September, 1819.

TREATY of perpetual Friendship and Alliance between the Honourable East-India Company and his Highness MAHARAJA PERTAUB SHEAN, his Heirs and Successors, concluded at Sattara, the 25th of September, 1819, by Captain JAMES GRANT, Political Agent on the part of the Honourable East-India Company, and WETTUR PUNT FURNAWEESE, on the part of the Raja, by virtue of full powers from their respective Governments.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Treaty with the
Raja of Sattara,
25 Sept. 1819.

WHEREAS the British Government having determined, in consideration of the antiquity of the house of his Highness the Raja of Sattara, to invest him with a sovereignty sufficient for the maintenance of his family in comfort and dignity, the following articles have been agreed to between the said Government and his Highness.

Article I.—The British Government agrees to cede in perpetual sovereignty to the Raja of Sattara, his heirs and successors, the districts specified in the annexed schedule.

Article II.—The Raja, for himself, and for his heirs and successors, engages to hold the territory in subordinate co-operation with the British Government, and to be guided in all matters by the advice of the British Agent at his Highness's Court.

Article III.—The British Government charges itself with the defence of the Raja's territories, and engages to protect his Highness from all injury and aggression. The Raja, for himself, and for his heirs and successors, engages to afford every facility to the purchase of supplies for such troops as may be stationed in his country or may pass through it; and the pasture lands now appropriated for the use of the troops are to be permanently given up to them. The Raja likewise, for himself, and for his heirs and successors, engages to afford all the assistance in his power to the British Government, in all wars and military operations in which it may be engaged.

Article IV.—His Highness, for himself, and for his heirs and successors, engages at no time to increase or diminish the military force without the previous knowledge and consent of the British Government.

Article V.—The Raja, for himself, and for his heirs and successors, engages to forbear from all intercourse with foreign powers, and with all Sirdars, Jaghseers, Chiefs, and Ministers, and all persons of whatever description,

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Treaty with the
Raja of Sattara,
25 Sept. 1819.

who are not by the above articles rendered subject to his Highness's authority. With all the above persons his Highness, for himself, and for his heirs and successors, engages to have no connexion or correspondence. Any affairs that may arise with them relating to his Highness are to be exclusively conducted by the British Government. If (for the purpose of forming matrimonial connexions for his Highness's family, or for any similar purpose) his Highness has occasion to communicate with persons not rendered subject to his authority by this agreement, such communication is to be made entirely through the Political Agent.

This article is a fundamental condition of the present agreement, and any departure from it on the Raja's part shall subject him to the loss of all the advantages he may gain by the said agreement.

Article VI.—The Raja shall ultimately have the entire arrangement of the country now ceded to him; but as it is necessary, on account of the recent conquest of the country, that it should at first be governed with particular care and prudence, the administration will, for the present, remain in the hands of the British Political Agent. That officer will, however, conduct the government in the Raja's name, and in consultation with his Highness: and in proportion as his Highness and his officers shall acquire experience, and evince their ability to govern the country, the British Government will gradually transfer the whole administration into their hands. He will, however, at all times attend, as above agreed, to the advice which the British Political Agent shall offer him, for the good of his state, and for the maintenance of general tranquillity.

Article VII.—The possessions of the Jagheerdars within his Highness's territory are to be under the guarantee of the British Government; which, on the other hand, engages to secure their performing the service which they owe to his Highness according to established custom.

Article VIII.—All persons guilty of murder, treason, robbery, or other great offences, who may fly from the territories of the Company into those of the Raja, are to be given up to the British Government. In like manner, all criminals, as above described, who may fly into the territories of the British Government, are to be given up to the Raja. For the better execution of justice and prevention of crimes, the Raja consents that the officers of the British Government may pursue such criminals and apprehend them in his territory.

Article IX.—The ghauts are to be the general boundary of the Raja's territory towards the Concan. Where no specific exception is made, those mountains are to be included within his Highness's territory.

A survey is to be undertaken as soon as convenient, to fix the frontier where the mountains run into the plain. The British Government reserves to itself the right of retaining such portions of the mountains, so situated, as may be necessary to make a clear frontier, or for other purposes.

The British Government also reserves to itself the right of cutting timber on the western sides of the ghauts. The customs in the line of ghauts are to be levied by the Company, and an equivalent allowed to the Raja.

Article X.—The Honourable Company and the Raja agree to enter, as soon as may be convenient, on a commercial treaty; and in the mean time, the Raja for himself, and for his heirs and successors, engages to adopt the same system with regard to customs as that which may be adopted by the British Government in its adjoining territories.

Article XI.—This treaty, consisting of eleven articles, being this day settled and concluded at Sattara, by Captain James Grant and Wittul Punt Furnaweese, Captain Grant has delivered to his Highness, Maharaja Pertaub Shean, a copy of the same in English, Mahratta, and Persian, under the seal and signature of the said Captain James Grant; and his Highness's Maharaja Pertaub Shean has delivered to the said Captain James Grant a copy of the

copy, also in English, Mahratta, and Persian, bearing his Highness's seal and signature; and the aforesaid Captain James Grant has engaged to procure and deliver to his Highness, without delay, a copy of the same, duly ratified by his Excellency the Most Noble Francis Marquis of Hastings, K.G., one of his Britannic Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council, Governor General in Council, appointed by the Honourable Company to direct and control all their affairs in the East-Indies, Commander-in-Chief of his Majesty's and the Honourable Company's Forces, &c., on the receipt of which by his said Highness this said treaty shall be deemed complete and binding on the Honourable East-India Company and on his Highness Raja Pertaub Shean, and the copy now delivered to his said Highness shall be returned.

Ratified by the Governor General in Council, this 27th day of November, 1819.

SATTARA PAPERS.

Treaty with the Raja of Sattara, 25 Sept. 1819.

SCHEDULE of the Territory and Revenue ceded to his Highness Maharaja Pertaub Shean of Sattara, by the first Article of the Treaty concluded at Sattara, the 25th September, 1819, and to which this Schedule is annexed.

Schedule of Territory and Revenue ceded to Maharaja Pertaub Shean.

1. That portion of Nurthuree in the Poona Prant, and that share of Seerwul which lies south of the Neera river.

2. The whole of the Woce Prant, including the following nine turruffs, viz.—

1. Kuwullee,	4. Kory Gaom,	7. Purelee,
2. Wagsowlee,	5. Sattara,	8. Koodal,
3. Neemb,	6. Mehra,	9. Wundun.

3. The whole of the Jowlie soobah, from the line at which the ghauts join the plain in the Concan, and including the following nine turruffs, viz.—

1. Baruh Moorree,	4. Alagaom,	7. Bamuhowlee,
2. Sonat Salsay,	5. Kerumb Khora,	8. Kandat Khora,
3. Tomb,	6. Hailwuk,	9. Zore Khora.

The forts of Pertaubgurb, Wassota, Byroogurb, and Prichetgurb, are exceptions to this. These four forts are to be garrisoned and held by the British Government during its pleasure; but the lands immediately attached to them, and within the line aforesaid, are to belong to the Raja.

4. The whole of the Prant Kurrar, including the following ten turruffs, viz.—

1. Oomruz,	5. Murlee,	9. Kola,
2. Targaom,	6. Patun,	10. Barsa.
3. Naneyhole,	7. Waroon,	
4. Tarela,	8. Huweelee,	

5. The whole of Kuttoo Dis, including the following twelve turruffs, viz.—

1. Hawallee,	5. Nunsur,	9. Eetah,
2. Malowree,	6. Mainee,	10. Kurraigaom,
3. Waugee,	7. Lulgoona,	11. Kalcedoon,
4. Balownee,	8. Ouna,	12. Kanapore.

6. The whole of Fultun Dis.

7. The whole of Maun Dis, including the following ten turruffs, viz.—

1. Auklooz,	5. Atparee	9. Kassagaom,
2. Balawnee,	6. Dehgaom,	10. Punderpore.
3. Velapore,	7. Dhurumpoorree,	
4. Muswar,	8. Naz...	

8. The following turruffs and villages in the pergunna of Beejapore, viz.—

1. Saugpla,	2. Gerdee,	3. Brimmapoorhee.
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SATTARA
PAPERS.

Schedule of
Territory and
Revenue ceded to
Maharaja Pertaub
Shan.

In Munguluchra the whole village of Koopsaugce: and the Raja having been told that his frontier should extend from the Kistna and Warna on the south, to the Neera and Beema on the north, and from the western ghauts, or Shyadree Hills on the west, to the city of Punderpore on the east, exclusive of jagheers, there will be some additional territory made over to him from the province of Beejapore, to be hereafter specified, but of which the revenue shall not be less than one lac of rupees.

9. The following turruffs and villages in the Prant Merech, *viz.* —

1st. Kuryat Anjinuce village of Bunoor.

2nd. Kuryat Visapore Umul, and share of five villages, *viz.*—

- | | | |
|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| 1. Attay, | 3. Nimuluck, | 5. Seergaom. |
| 2. Audcelec, | 4. Neem, | |

3rd. Bellawree Umul, and share in seven villages, *viz.*—

- | | | |
|---------------|--------------|-----------------|
| 1. Bellawree, | 4. Gagoom. | 6. Doodhoondie, |
| 2. Dyaharee, | 5. Taaparec, | 7. Bambouree. |
| 3. Dooharec, | | |

4th. Keiry at Kowtah Mahungkul Umul, and shares of six villages, *viz.*—

- | | | |
|------------|---------------|----------------|
| 1. Nunnec, | 3. Kawlapore, | 5. Mudgaomkee, |
| 2. Bedree, | 4. Shergaom, | 6. Nagaom. |

5th. Astah Umul, and shares of seven villages, *viz.*—

- | | | |
|------------------|-----------------|--------------|
| 1. Tanbulwarec, | 4. Sakurday, | 6. Malwarec, |
| 2. Koondulwarec, | 5. Yeet Kurree, | 7. Pokurnee. |
| 3. Dhowlee, | | |

6th. Sauglee Umul, and shares in two villages, *viz.*—

- | | |
|-------------|---------------|
| 1. Bissoor, | 2. Sundowlee. |
|-------------|---------------|

7th. Kuryat Kowtah Yekund Umul, and share of the village Wusugra.

8th. Hewelee Umul, and shares in three villages, *viz.*—

- | | | |
|---------------|-----------|------------|
| 1. Hatnowlee, | 2. Alass, | 3. Nagaom. |
|---------------|-----------|------------|

9th. Tasgaom Umul, and shares in four villages, *viz.*—

- | | | |
|----------------|-----------|--------------|
| 1. Poondce, | 3. Paray, | 4. Mungrool. |
| 2. Chinchence, | | |

10th. Sawarday Umul, and shares of three villages, *viz.*—

- | | | |
|-------------------|------------|------------|
| 1. KusbaSawarday, | 2. Lowrie, | 3. Dorlie. |
|-------------------|------------|------------|

11th. Delhsing village of Kurotec Umul, in the following thirteen retained villages, *viz.*—

- | | | |
|-----------------|-------------|---------------|
| 1. Nagrally, | 6. Baumie, | 11. Benapore, |
| 2. Keittao, | 7. Nilgee, | 12. Belwarec, |
| 3. Sawalwarree, | 8. Tanug, | 13. Kajapore. |
| 4. Tahree, | 9. Taklee, | |
| 5. Kumboojee, | 10. Saolee, | |

10. The following turruffs and villages in the Prant Panalla, *viz.*—

1st. Turruff Walwa.

2nd. Kuryat Bajey Umul, and shares in four villages, *viz.*—

- | | | |
|-------------|--------------|------------------|
| 1. Bouncha, | 3. Akulcope, | 4. Peeraukowtah. |
| 2. Pete, | | |

3rd. Wurgaom Umul, and share of two villages, *viz.*—

- | | |
|--------------|--------------|
| 1. Sheegaom, | 2. Konygaom. |
|--------------|--------------|

4th. Kodawlee Umul, and shares of two villages, *viz.*—

- | | |
|----------------|-----------------|
| 1. Kurujawray, | 2. Chickoonday. |
|----------------|-----------------|

5th.^a Turruff Huwellie, one village, *viz.*—

1. Koorlup.

6th. Kuryat Tulbeer, the whole of the following five villages, *viz.*—

1. Tulbur,

4. Osrul.

2. Moonday,

5. Kurewlay and Umul, in the village of Vellum.

3. Masgaom,

7th. Kuryat Kassegaoam, the following six villages, *viz.*—

1. Kassegaoam,

3. Yeray,

5. Tombway,

2. Rehtra Hurwaks

4. Thenowly,

6. Malkheer.

8th. Kuryat Satwa Umul, in the village of Manglay.

9th. The whole of the pergunna of Serata.

11. The following turruffs and villages in the Prant Racebany.

1st. Kuryat Vaudhere Umul, and shares in the following three villages, *viz.*—

1. Koorjeegeoam,

3. Chinchiney, and the village of Wureca.

2. Monela,

12. The following villages in the Prant Nagul.

1st. Kuryat Degruz Umul, and shares of four villages, *viz.*—

1. Dhongur Sonce,

3. Kuzbar Degruz,

4. Baregaom.

2. Boorlee,

2nd. Kurgat Majree Umul, in the village of Aklee.

13. The following villages in the Prant Hookaree.

1st. Kuryah Dadgaom Umul, and share of three villages, *viz.*—

1. Kusbah Dadgaom,

3. Burkilbey, and the whole of the Kusbah of Saluz.

2. Boregaom Doputt,

2nd. Kuryat Joogul Umul, in the village of Mungawuttee.

Together with the possessions of the Raja of Akulkote, the Punt Suchew, the Prithee Nidhee, and the jagheer of the Dufflays, in the pergunna of Jhutt.

Such villages as belong to the Putwurdhuns, within the boundaries of any of the above-mentioned purgunnas, are to be continued to be possessed by them, subject to such exchanges as the British Government may see fit; and, in like manner, such villages as are mentioned in this schedule, and now ceded to the Raja, which may be situated within the purgunnas or turruffs belonging to the British Government or Putwurdhuns, will be liable to such exchanges as the British Government may deem proper for the general convenience of parties concerned.

The Raja shall have power to make such exchanges with the Raja of Akulkote, the Punt Suchew, and the Jagheerdars subject to his authority, as may be desirable to the parties concerned, for the purpose of consolidating their respective possessions; provided that such exchanges be undertaken with the immediate concurrence of the Agent of the British Government.

EXTRACT BOMBAY POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS

23rd August, 1820.

ENCLOSURES IN LETTER FROM THE POLITICAL AGENT AT SATTARA TO THE COMMISSIONER OF POONA,

Dated 25th May, 1820.

—B.—

Seal of
Capt. Grant.

TERMS fixed by Captain JAMES GRANT Sahib Bahadoor, on the part of the Honourable Company Bahadoor, for USMUT PUNA RENOOKA BAE DUFFLEY, Desmook of Jut and Kurzgee, by which the JUT and KURZGEE pergunnas are made over to her.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

B.
Terms of
Agreement.

These districts were formerly held as a personal and military jagheer, and having come into the possession of the British Government along with the rest of the country, they are now freely restored in consideration of the antiquity and respectability of the family, to be held, as formerly, in personal and military jagheer. But as these districts came within the limits of the territory of his Highness the Raja of Sattara, according to the treaty with the British Government, therefore Renooka Baee Duffley is to be considered a Jagheerdar of his Highness's government, but under the guarantee of the British Government.

The following articles are agreed to on the part of the British Government and Renooka Baee Duffley :—

1. The districts of Jut and Kurzgee having been possessed as a jagheer up to the period of the war, they are now freely restored and confirmed. During the Government of the Peishwa these districts were held as an allowance for four hundred and fifty horse under Rasteea, but afterwards the number was fixed at three hundred, and because the country was not in a flourishing state, full service to that amount was not demanded, and the number was finally fixed at two hundred. That Renooka Baee Duffley may live in affluence and comfort, and also be enabled to keep up the contingent in the most complete state of equipment, Government have remitted three-fourths of that number, and fixed the present contingent at fifty horse, which must be kept up constantly in the service of his Highness the Raja of Sattara.

2. The horses and men forming the contingent are to be good. The horses of the value of from 3 to 400 rupees are to be always present in the service of his Highness, and to proceed without delay or remonstrance wherever the services may

may be required. They are to be mustered whenever so ordered, and should there be any deficiency in the number, such deficiency must be made good at the annual rate of Rs. 300 per each horse, to be calculated from the period of the former muster; but previous to enforcing the demand, a representation of the circumstances will be made by his Highness's government to the Agent of the British Government, and his concurrence obtained.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

B.
Terms of
Agreement.

3. In the event of the contingent being employed in war under a requisition from the British Government, and should any men or horses in consequence be killed or wounded, it is to be clearly understood, that nothing in the way of an equivalent shall be paid by the government of his Highness. Risks and casualties of all kinds, as well as the furnishing of ammunition, are included in the allowance.

4. The whole expense of managing the jagheer is to be defrayed without reference to what is incurred by keeping up the horse, as the territories of the British Government and of his Highness adjoin the jagheer; it is therefore determined, that in the event of any disturbance taking place in them, on the requisition of the Manildar of either government, aid shall be furnished by a ready co-operation with all the disposable police of the jagheer.

5. Whatever enams, villages, wuttuns, and other allowances have hitherto belonged to Renooka Baee Duffley within the territories of the British Government, or of his Highness, shall be continued, and whatever items of revenue belonging to his Highness's government may be within the jagheer district shall continue to be paid. All doomallee villages and land wurshashun, dhurnadao, dewastun, rozindar, khyrat, nemnook, dhurruck, and such like allowances within the jagheer, must be continued as they are at present. All persons having possessions on Government deeds are not to be interfered with; such interruptions as might exist from temporary causes at the time charge was received (from the British Government) are to be examined, and the claims justly settled.

Care must be taken that no just cause or complaint may be brought forward on such points. In cases when any of the above-mentioned possessors of inheritance or allowance shall behave improperly, it will be necessary to acquaint the Agent of the British Government with the particulars, who, in conjunction with his Highness's government, will intimate what course is to be pursued, either in respect to punishment or resumption. Should persons holding such inheritances or allowances raise or excite any disturbances, or commit any offences against the peace of the public, or should persons possessed of such rights die without heirs, you will fully investigate the matter, and state what appears really just, when his Highness's government, with the advice of the Agent of the British Government, will send such orders as may seem fit, and which must be conformed to.

6. That the inhabitants of the jagheer territory may be protected, justice must be properly dispensed, and a good police upheld, to detect theft and to suppress gang robberies. If this is not attended to, and the country be without justice, so that people are obliged to complain, the government of his Highness, with the advice and assistance of the Agent of the British Government, having understood the matter, will decide on such subjects, and their decisions must be attended to; and further, in regard to such decisions not being attended to, so that the country may fall into a state of misgovernment, and robberies and other crimes become of very frequent occurrence, in such an event, whatever may appear to be the most proper measures shall be suggested by the Agent of the British Government, and corresponding arrangements will be made by his Highness's government.

7. Without orders from Government, no extra troops are to be levied and none assembled for the purpose of making war on any one. In matters of family disputes concerning relations such like, no appeal to arms can be permitted, but the case is to be represented to the Agent of the British Government,

SATTARA
PAPERS.

B.
Terms of
Agreement.

Government, who shall communicate with the government of his Highness, and whatever decision is given must be reckoned binding.

8. With the exception of those under the government of his Highness, no intercourse or communication by letter is to be entered into with such as Bajee Row Sahib, or other princes, chieftains, commanders and others, nor is any aid or assistance, by joining the troops of any one, to be given. This article forms the basis of the present agreement; and should what is above written be departed from, the jagheer will not be continued.

9. All persons having committed crimes within the jagheer country, who may take shelter in the territories of the British Government, or of his Highness, shall be delivered over to Renooka Baee Duffley, after information has been given to the Agent of the British Government, and by him communicated to the British Government, or to the government of his Highness, as the case may be; and, in like manner, all criminals from the territories of the British Government, or of his Highness, shall be delivered up by Renooka Baee Duffley, to their respective governments; and assistance must be rendered to people of either government who may be sent for the apprehension of such offenders.

10. Whilst you, Renooka Baee Duffley, shall continue to fulfil the terms of your service in good faith, integrity, and fidelity, your jagheer shall be held without any interruption from his Highness's government; on this point the British Government is your guarantee.

11. All titles and forms of respect hitherto enjoyed by Renooka Baee Duffley shall be continued. All requests on the part of the Jagheerdar which may be reasonable and proper shall be granted, but such as are otherwise shall not be agreed to.

12. As the jagheer district adjoins the territory of his Highness, and it may be necessary to effect exchanges of items of revenue or land, for the purpose either of defining the boundary or for police arrangements, therefore, on a representation from the government of his Highness, the Agent of the British Government will arrange such exchanges as may be necessary, provided they are not injurious to the interests of the Jagheerdar, and such exchanges must be made accordingly.

In all twelve articles as above, which must be observed. 22nd April, A.D. 1820, corresponding with 8 Rujjub Soor Sun Athreen Myuttyn Wu Alif (or) Arabic year 1220, at Sattara.

[Signature of Capt. J. Grant.]

—B.—

Seal of H. H. the
Raja of Sattara.

B.
Terms of
Agreement.

AGREEMENT on the part of his Highness the RAJA of SATTARA, respecting RENOOKA BAE DUFFLEY, Deshmook of the pergunnas of JUT and KURZGEE, to whom these commands are issued.

The pergunnas of Jut and Kurzee having been for a long time past possessed by you in jagheer, therefore the British Government have in their liberality freely restored and bestowed the same on you according to terms fixed by Captain James Grant, Bala on their part, consisting of twelve articles.

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The country of the jagheer having come within the limits of the territory of his Highness by the treaty with the British Government, an agreement in consequence has been made out and delivered to you on the part of the British Government, which has been approved of by the Huzzoor, and for the purpose of confirming you in the above-mentioned jagheer, the Sirkar has determined as follows :

SATTARA
PAPERS.

• B.
Terms of
Agreement.

1. The pergunnas of Jut and Kurzgee are to be held as a personal and military jagheer, on condition of furnishing fifty horse completely equipped, to be kept constantly present in the service of his Highness the Raja of Sattara.

2. The horses and men forming the contingent are to be good, the horses of the value of from 3 to 400 rupees, to be kept constantly ready in the service of his Highness, to be mustered whenever so ordered, and to proceed wherever their services may be required, without delay or remonstrance. Should any deficiency in the number appear at muster, such deficiency must be made good at the annual rate of 300 rupees per each horse, to be calculated from the period at which the former muster took place ; but previous to enforcing this demand, his Highness's government will make a representation of the circumstances, and obtain the concurrence of the Agent of the British Government.

3. In the event of your contingent being employed in war on requisition by the Agent of the British Government, and should any men or horses in consequence be either killed or wounded, it is to be clearly understood that nothing in the way of compensation shall be paid by the Government of his Highness. Risks and casualties of all kinds, as well as the furnishing of ammunition, are included in the allowance.

4. The whole expense of managing the jagheer is to be defrayed without any reference to what is incurred by keeping up the horse. The territories of the British Government and of his Highness being situated close to the jagheer country, in the event of any disturbances taking place, on the requisition of the Mamlutdars of either government, aid must be furnished by a ready co-operation with all the disposable police of the jagheer.

5. Whatever wuttun or other allowances have hitherto been enjoyed by you within the territory of his Highness shall be continued, and all items of revenue belonging to his Highness within your districts shall continue to be paid. Within the jagheer country all doomallee villages and land wurshashun, dhurmadao, dewustun, rozindar, khyrat, nemnook, dburruck, and such like allowances, must be continued as they at present stand. All persons having possessions on government grants are not to be interfered with ; such interruptions as might exist from temporary causes at the time you received charge (from the British Government) are to be examined, and the claims justly settled. You will be careful that no just cause of complaint is brought forward against you on such points.

In cases where any of the above-mentioned possessors of inheritances or allowances shall behave improperly, it will be necessary to acquaint the Agent of the British Government with the particulars, who, in conjunction with his Highness's government, will intimate what course is to be pursued, either in respect to punishment or resumption. Should persons holding such inheritances or allowances raise or excite any disturbances, or commit any offences against the peace of the public, or should persons die without heirs, you will fully investigate the matter, and state what may appear really just, when his Highness's government, with the advice of the Agent of the British Government, will send such orders as may seem fit, and which must be conformed to.

6. That the inhabitants of the jagheer country may be protected, justice must be properly administered, and a police upheld, to detect theft and to suppress gang robberies. If this is not attended to, and unjust decisions given, so that people are obliged to complain, the government of his Highness, with

SATTARA
PAPERS.

B.
Terms of
Agreement.

with the advice and assistance of the Agent of the British Government, having understood the matter, will decide on such subjects, and their decisions must be attended to: and further, in regard to such decisions not being attended to, so that the country may become in a state of misgovernment, and robberies and other crimes of very frequent occurrence, then whatever appears to be the proper measures shall be suggested by the Agent of the British Government, and corresponding arrangements will be made by his Highness's government.

7. Without orders from Government no extra troops are to be levied, and none assembled for the purpose of making war on any one. In matters of family disputes concerning relationship, and such like, no appeal to arms can be permitted, but the matter is to be represented to Government, when such orders as may be given with the advice of the Agent of the Government must be reckoned binding.

8. With the exception of those under the government of his Highness, no intercourse or communication by letter is to be entered into with any chiefs, such as Bajee Row Sahib, or other princes, chieftains, commanders and others, nor is any aid or assistance by joining the troops of any one to be given. This article forms the basis of the present agreement, and should what is above written be departed from, with the advice of the Agent of the British Government, the jagheer will not be continued.

9. All persons having committed crimes within the jagheer country, and who may take shelter in the territory of his Highness or of the British Government, shall be delivered up to their respective governments, and every assistance must be rendered to people of either government, who may enter your country in pursuit of such offenders.

10. Whilst you continue to perform the terms of your service in good faith, integrity and fidelity, your jagheer shall be held without any interruption on the part of the Sirkar; on this point the British Government is your guarantee, which his Highness's government agrees to.

11. All titles and all customary forms of respect hitherto enjoyed by you shall be continued; all requests on your part which may be reasonable and proper shall be granted, but such as are otherwise shall not be agreed to.

12. As your jagheer adjoins the territory of his Highness, and consequently it may be necessary to effect exchanges of land or items of revenue, either for the purpose of distinctly defining the boundary, or for the police arrangements, therefore such exchanges shall take place with the advice and assistance of the Agent of the British Government, provided they are not injurious to your interests.

13. You must appear in personal attendance yearly at the festival of the Dussorah, and also attend on all occasions of ceremony or congratulation when your attendance may be required by his Highness. You must also be in personal attendance whenever the establishment of his Highness may move to any great distance.

A true translation.

(Signed) HENRY ADAMS.

—C., No. 2.—

Seal of
Capt. Jas. Grant.

TERMS fixed by Captain JAMES GRANT, Bahadoor, on the part of the Honourable Company, for Rao Sahib MIRIBAN JAN RAO NAIK NIMBALKUR, Deshmook of Phultun, by which the pergunna of PHULTUN is made over to him as he enjoyed the same formerly, in personal and military jagheer.

SATTARA
PAPERS.C. 2.
Terms of
Agreement.

This district, along with the rest of the country, having come into the possession of the British Government, it is now freely bestowed as a military jagheer in consideration of the antiquity and respectability of the family; but as according to the terms of the treaty concluded with his Highness the Raja of Sattara, this jagheer is within the limits of his territory, therefore Jan Rao Naik Nimbalkur is to be considered a Jagheerदार of his Highness's government, but under the guarantee of the British Government.

The following articles are agreed to on the part of the British Government and Jan Rao Naik :—

1. The Phultun pergunna having been possessed up to the war as a personal and military allowance, in like manner it is now restored and confirmed. During the government of the Peishwa the contingent was fixed at three hundred and fifty horse, but in consequence of the country not being in a flourishing state, service to the full amount of this number was not insisted upon.

That Jan Rao Naik may live in affluence and comfort, and also be enabled to keep up his contingent in the most complete state of equipment and readiness for the service, Government have fixed the amount of it at ninety horse, of which number seventy-five must always remain in the service of his Highness the Raja of Sattara, and the remaining fifteen with the Naik.

2. The horses and men forming the contingent are to be good, the horses of the value of from 3 to 400 rupees, and to be always kept ready in the service of his Highness's government; wherever their services may be required they are to proceed without any delay or remonstrance. They are to be mustered whenever so ordered, and should there be any of the number deficient, such deficiency must be made good at the annual rate of 300 rupees for each horse, calculated from the period at which the former muster took place; but previous to enforcing the demand, his Highness's government will make a representation of the circumstances, and obtain the concurrence of the Agent of the British Government.

3. In the event of the contingent being employed in war under a requisition from the British Government, should any horses or men in consequence be killed or wounded, it is to be clearly understood, that nothing in the way of an equivalent shall be paid by his Highness's government. Risks and casualties of all kinds, including the furnishing of ammunition, are included in the allowance.

4. The whole expense of managing the jagheer is to be defrayed without any reference to what is incurred by keeping up the horse. The territories of the British Government and of his Highness being situated close to the jagheer, in the event of any disturbance taking place, on the requisition of the Mamultdars of either of the governments, aid must be furnished by a ready co-operation with all the disposable police of the jagheer.

5. Whatever enam villages, wuttas, &c., have hitherto belonged to the Naik shall be continued to him on his territory of his Highness, and all items of revenue of his Highness which lie within the district of the Naik shall be paid

SATTARA
PAPERS.
—
C. 2.
Terms of
Agreement.

paid to his Highness's government within the jagheer territory ; all doomallee villages, wurshashun, dhurmadao, dewastun, rozindar, khyrat, nemnook, dhur-ruck, and such like payments must be continued as they are at this time. All persons having possessions on government grants are not to be interfered with ; such interruptions as might exist from temporary causes at the time you received charge from the British Government are to be examined, and the claims justly settled ; you will be careful that no just cause of complaint is brought forward against you on such points.

In cases where any of the above-mentioned possessors of inheritance or allowance shall behave improperly, it will be necessary to acquaint the Agent of the British Government with the particulars, who, in conjunction with his Highness's government, will intimate what course is to be pursued, either in respect to punishment or resumption. Should persons holding such inheritance or allowance raise or excite any disturbance, or commit any offences against the peace of the public, or should persons possessed of such rights die without heirs, you will fully investigate the matter, and state what may appear really just, when his Highness's government, with the advice of the Agent of the British Government, will send such orders as may seem fit, and which must be conformed to.

6. That the subjects of the jagheer territory may have protection, justice must be properly administered, and a good police upheld, to detect thefts and to suppress gang robberies. If this is not attended to, and the country be without justice, so that people are obliged to complain, the government of his Highness, with the advice and assistance of the Agent of the British Government, having understood the matter, will decide on such subjects, and their decisions must be attended to ; and further, in regard to such decisions not being attended to, so that the country may become in a state of misgovernment, and robberies and other crimes of very frequent occurrence, then whatever appears to be the proper measures shall be suggested by the Agent of the British Government, and corresponding arrangements will be made by his Highness's government.

7. Without orders from Government, no extra troops are to be levied, and none assembled for the purpose of making war on any one. In matters of family disputes concerning relationship and such like, no appeal to arms can be permitted, but the case is to be represented to the Agent of the British Government, who will communicate with the government of his Highness, and whatever decision is given must be reckoned binding.

8. With the exception of those under the government of his Highness, no intercourse or correspondence by letter is to be entered into with such as Bajee Row Sahib, or other princes, chieftains, commanders and others, nor is any aid or assistance by joining the troops of any one to be given. This article forms the basis of the present agreement, and should what is above written be departed from, the jagheer will not be continued.

9. All persons having committed crimes within the jagheer territory, and who may take shelter in the dominions of the British Government or of his Highness, shall be delivered over to Jan Rao Naik Nimbalkur after information has been given to the Agent of the British Government, and by him communicated to the British Government or to the government of his Highness, as the case may be ; and, in like manner, all criminals from the territories of the British Government or of his Highness shall be delivered up by Jan Rao Naik to their respective governments, and assistance must also be rendered to any public servants who may be sent for the apprehension of such persons.

10. Whilst Jan Rao Naik shall continue to fulfil the terms of his service in good faith, integrity, and fidelity, the jagheer shall be held without any interruption from his Highness's government ; on this point the British Government is the guarantee.

11. All titles and all customary respects of respect hitherto enjoyed by Jan Rao Naik shall be continued ; all requests on the part of the Jagheerdar which may

may be reasonable and proper shall be granted, but such as are otherwise shall not be agreed to.

12. As the jagheer district adjoins the territory of his Highness, and consequently it may be necessary to effect exchanges of items of revenue or land, either for the purpose of distinctly defining the boundary or on account of arrangements in the police, therefore on a representation from the government of his Highness, the Agent of the British Government will arrange such exchanges as may be necessary, having previously ascertained that they will not be injurious to the interests of Jan Rao Naik, and such exchanges must be made accordingly.

[Signature of Captain Grant.]

In all twelve articles as above, which must be observed. At Sattara, 22nd April, A.D. 1820, or 8th Rujjul Soorum Ashreem Myuttun Wu Ulf, or Arabic year 1220.

True translation.

(Signed) HENRY ADAMS.

-D., No. 2.-

Seal of
Capt. Grant.

TERMS fixed by Captain JAMES GRANT, *Sahib Bahadoor*, on the part of the Honourable Company, for Rao Sahib MOOSHUFUK MIRIBAN PURSERAM, *Pundit Prithee Nidhee*.

D. 2.
Terms of
Agreement.

The possessions of the Punt Prithee Nidhee came into the possession of the British Government along with the rest of the country, but in consideration of the antiquity and respectability of the family, they have been freely restored in the same manner as they were held, up to the period of the war. But as the greater part of the country of the Prithee Nidhee is within the limits of the territory made over by treaty to his Highness the Raja of Sattara, the Prithee Nidhee therefore is placed under the government of his Highness.

The British Government is to guarantee, and the terms fixed are as follows:

1. That the inhabitants of the country under the Prithee Nidhee may be protected, justice must be properly administered, and a police established for the prevention and detection of thieves and robbers. Should justice not be honestly dispensed, and thefts and robberies from the inefficiency of the police become so frequent that people may be obliged to complain; in the event of such being the case, the government of his Highness will, with the advice and assistance of the Agent of the British Government, issue directions on the subject, which must be attended to.

2. An efficient police must be established, so that no inhabitants of the country under the Punt Prithee Nidhee may commit thefts or robberies within the territories of the British Government, or of his Highness. Should at any time stolen property be found or thefts traced within the country of the Punt Prithee Nidhee, the thief and stolen property must be made over to whichever government may demand them. People of either government who may enter the country of the Prithee Nidhee for the purpose of apprehending criminal and other offenders must have every assistance given to them. If this is not attended to, then whatever may be the proper measures shall be suggested by the Agent of the British Government, and corresponding arrangements will be made by his Highness's government.

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SATTARA
PAPERS.

D. 2. •
Terms of
Agreement.

3. Excepting those under the government of his Highness, no intercourse or communication by letter can be allowed with any chiefs, such as Bajee Rao Sahib, or other princes, chieftains, commanders, and others, nor is it permitted to give aid or assistance to any one. This article is the basis of the present agreement, and a departure from it will occasion the forfeiture of all advantages possessed by virtue of this agreement.

4. Without the knowledge and orders of Government no extra troops are to be entertained, or war entered upon with any one. In all cases of domestic dispute about relationship, and such like, no appeal to arms can be permitted, but information must be sent to the Agent of the British Government, who will represent the affair to the government of his Highness, and such decisions, as with his advice shall be given, must be reckoned binding.

5. In the event of disputes taking place regarding items of revenue possessed by the Prithee Nidhee within the districts of the Putwurdhuns or others, information of the particulars must be sent to the Agent of the British Government, when a settlement will take place in consequence; but no separate communication is to be made.

6. As the country of the Prithee Nidhee adjoins the territories of the British Government and of his Highness, it may be necessary to make exchanges for the purpose of correctly defining the boundary, or on account of police arrangements; but such exchanges shall be made in a manner not injurious to the interests of the Punt.

7. The sum of two thousand rupees, formerly paid yearly by the Prithee Nidhee to the Punt Suchew, has been made over by him to the government of his Highness, to whom it must accordingly be paid annually.

8. All allowances in the country of the Prithee Nidhee, such as doomallee, dhurmadao, enams, wurshashuns, dewastun, rozindar, nemnook, dhurruck, and others of the like kind, must be continued as they at present exist; there ought to be no complaints on this head.

9. As the British territories and those of his Highness adjoin the country of the Prithee Nidhee, it is necessary that in all cases of disturbances occurring in them, assistance shall be rendered on the requisition of the Mamlutdars of either government.

10. The Punt Prithee Nidhee must appear in personal attendance on his Highness yearly at the festival of the Dussorah. All titles and customary forms of respect hitherto enjoyed shall be continued to the Punt.

In all ten articles as above, which must be observed. At Sattara, 22nd April, 1820, corresponding with 8th Rujjub Soor Sun Ashreem Mvuttun Wu Ulf, or Arabic year 1220.

[Signature of Capt. J. Grant.]

True translation.

(Signed) HENRY ADAMS.

—C., No. 4.—

Seal of H.H. the
Raja of Sattara.

C. 4.
Terms of
Agreement.

AGREEMENT on the part of his Highness the RAJA of SATTARA, respecting RAJEE SREE JAN RAO NAIK NIMBALKUR, Deshmook of the Phultun pergunna, to which these commands are issued.

The pergunna of Phultun having for a long time past possessed by you as a personal and military jagheer the British Government therefore have in

in their liberality freely bestowed and restored the same to you, according to terms fixed by Captain James Grant, Bahadoor, on their part.

The country of the jagheer having come within the limits of the territory of the Huzzoor, by the treaty with the British Government, it has accordingly been placed under it, and an agreement on the part of the British Government has been made and delivered to you, which has been approved of by the Sirkar; and for the purpose of confirming you in the above-mentioned jagheer, the Huzzoor has determined as follows:

SATTARA
PAPERS.

•C. 4.
Terms of
Agreement.

1. The pergunna of Phultun is to be held as a personal and military jagheer, on condition of furnishing ninety horse, seventy-five of which completely [equipped], and the horses good, are always to be kept in the service of the Huzzoor, and the remaining fifteen to remain with you.

2. The horses and men forming the contingent are to be good, the horses of the value of from three to four hundred rupees, and to be always kept ready in the service of his Highness's government; wherever their services may be required they are to proceed without any delay or remonstrance. They are to be mustered whenever so ordered, and should there be any of the number deficient, such deficiency must be made good at the annual rate of three hundred rupees for each horse, calculated from the period at which the former muster took place; but previous to enforcing the demand, his Highness's government will make a representation of the circumstances, and obtain the concurrence of the Agent of the British Government.

3. In the event of the contingent being employed in war under a requisition from the British Government, should any horses or men in consequence be killed or wounded, it is to be clearly understood that nothing in the way of an equivalent shall be paid by his Highness's government; risks and casualties of all kinds, including the furnishing of ammunition, are included in the allowance.

4. The whole expense of managing the jagheer is to be defrayed without any reference to what is incurred by keeping up the horse. The territories of the British Government and of his Highness being situated close to the jagheer, in the event of any disturbance taking place, on the requisition of the Mamlutdars of either of the governments, aid must be furnished by a ready co-operation with all the disposable police of the jagheer.

5. Whatever enam villages, wuttuns, &c., have hitherto belonged to the Naik, shall be continued to him in the territory of his Highness, and all items of revenue of his Highness which lie within the district of the Naik shall be paid to his Highness's government; within the jagheer territory all doomallee villages, wurshashun, dhurmadao, dewastun, rozindar, khyrat, nemnook, dhurruck, and such like payments, must be continued as they are at this time; all persons having possessions on government grants are not to be interfered with. Such interruptions as might exist from temporary causes at the time you received charge from the British Government are to be examined, and the claims justly settled; you will be careful that no just cause of complaint is brought forward against you on such points.

In cases where any of the above-mentioned possessors of inheritance or allowance shall behave improperly, it will be necessary to acquaint the Agent of the British Government with the particulars, who, in conjunction with his Highness's government, will intimate what course is to be pursued, either in respect to punishment or resumption. Should persons holding such inheritance or allowance raise or excite any disturbance, or commit any offences against the peace of the public, or should persons possessed of such rights die without heirs, you will fully investigate the matter and state what may appear really just, when his Highness's government, on the advice of the Agent of the British Government, will send such orders as may seem fit, and which must be conformed to.

6. That

SATTARA
PAPERS.

C. 4.
Terms of
Agreement.

6. That the subjects of the jagheer territory may have protection, justice must be properly administered, and a good police upheld to detect thefts and to suppress gang robberies. If this is not attended to and the country be without justice, so that people are obliged to complain, the government of his Highness, with the advice and assistance of the Agent of the British Government, having understood the matter, will decide on such subjects, and their decisions must be attended to; and further, in regard to such decisions not being attended to, so that the country may become in a state of misgovernment, and robberies and other crimes of very frequent occurrence, then whatever appears to be the proper measures shall be suggested by the Agent of the British Government, and corresponding arrangements will be made by his Highness's government.

7. Without orders from Government, no extra troops are to be levied and none assembled for the purpose of making war on any one. In matters of family disputes concerning relationship and such like, no appeal to arms can be permitted, but the case is to be represented to the Agent of the British Government, who will communicate with the government of his Highness, and whatever decision is given must be reckoned binding.

8. With the exception of those under the government of his Highness, no intercourse or correspondence by letter is to be entered into with such as Bajee Rao Sahib or other princes, chieftains, commanders, and others, nor is any aid and assistance by joining the troops of any one to be given. This article forms the basis of the present agreement, and if what is above written be departed from, by the advice of the British Government the jagheer will not be continued.

9. All persons having committed crimes within the jagheer territory, and who may take shelter in the country of the Huzzoor, shall be delivered over to you, after information has been given to the Agent of the British Government, and by him communicated to the British Government or to the government of his Highness, as the case may be; and, in like manner, all criminals from the territories of the British Government or of his Highness shall be delivered up by Jan Rao Naik to their respective governments, and assistance must also be rendered to any public servants who may be sent for the apprehension of such persons.

10. Whilst you shall continue to fulfil the terms of your service in good faith, integrity, and fidelity, the jagheer shall be held without any interruption on the part of the Sirkar; on this point the British Government is your guarantee, which is agreed to by the Sirkar.

11. All titles, and all customary forms of respect hitherto enjoyed by you shall be continued; all requests on your part which may be reasonable and proper shall be granted, but such as are otherwise shall not be agreed to.

12. As the jagheer district adjoins the territory of his Highness, and consequently it may be necessary to effect exchanges of items of revenue or land, either for the purpose of distinctly defining the boundary, or on account of arrangements in the police, therefore on a representation from the government of his Highness, the Agent of the British Government will arrange such exchanges as may be necessary, having previously ascertained that they will not be injurious to your interests, and such exchanges must be made accordingly.

13. You must appear in person every year at the festival of the Dussorah, and also attend, whenever requested so to do, on all great occasions of ceremony and congratulation; and when his Highness, with his establishment, may proceed to any great distance, you must also be in personal attendance.

True translation.

(Signed) HENRY ADAMS.

—D., No. 4.—

Seal of H. H. the
Raja of Sattara.

AGREEMENT on the part of his Highness the RAJA of SATTARA, respecting RAJEE SREE PURSERAM, Pundit Prithce Nidhee, to whom these commands are issued.

SATTARA
PAPERS.D. 4.
Terms of
Agreement.

The country formerly possessed by you has been freely restored, and bestowed through the liberality of the British Government, and an agreement, consisting of ten articles, has been made out and delivered to you by Captain James Grant, Sahib Bahadoor, on the part of the British Government. The greater part of your country has come within the limits of the territory made over to his Highness by the treaty with the British Government, and the terms fixed by the British Government having been approved of, the Huzzoor, for the purpose of confirming you in possession, has determined as follows :

1. Should any disturbances take place in the territories of his Highness, or of the British Government, which adjoin your country, aid must be afforded by sending all the disposable police in your districts, on requisition from the Mamlutdars of either government.

2. All wuttun and other allowances hitherto possessed by you within the territory of his Highness shall be continued, and, in like manner, all items of revenue belonging to his Highness's government within your country must be continued to be paid. All doomallee villages and land, wurshashun, dhurmadao, dewastun, rozindar, khyrat, nemnook, dhurruck, and all other allowances hitherto enjoyed within your country, must be continued without interruption ; and should at present any investigation be carrying on respecting the rights or possessions of those holding them on Government deeds, decisions must be given upon the fairest principles of justice, so that no complaints may be made. Should persons holding inheritances of the above-mentioned descriptions raise or excite disturbances, or commit offences against the public peace, or should persons possessed of such inheritances die without heirs, you will fully investigate the matter, and state what may appear really just, when his Highness's government, with the advice of the Agent of the British Government, will send such orders as may be fit and proper, which must be conformed to.

3. That the inhabitants of your country may be protected, justice must be honestly administered, and a proper police established for the prevention and detection of thieves and robbers ; but if unjust decisions are given, and no good police kept up, so that thefts and robberies become of frequent occurrence, and people in consequence may be obliged to bring forward complaints ; in the event of such being the case, whatever orders may in consequence be issued by his Highness's government, with the advice of the Agent of the British Government, these must be carried into effect.

4. Without the knowledge and orders of Government no extra troops are to be levied, or war entered upon with any one. In all cases of domestic disputes about relationship and such like, no appeal to arms will be permitted, but information is to be sent to Government, when such orders as may be sent on the subject, with the advice of the Agent of the British Government, must be considered binding.

5. Excepting those under the government of his Highness, no intercourse or communication by letter can be allowed with any chief, such as Bajee Rao Sahib, or other princes, chieftains, commanders or others ; nor is it permitted to send aid to any one, or to become engaged in the assemblage of any troops whatever. This article forms the basis of the present agreement, and if it is departed from, with the advice of the Agent of the British Government your possessions shall not be continued.

SATTARA
PAPERS.D. 4.
Terms of
Agreement.

6. All offenders and criminals from your country who may take shelter in the territory of his Highness shall be delivered over to you, and, in like manner, all offenders and criminals from within the territories of his Highness, or of the British Government, who may enter your country, shall be given up and delivered to whichever government they belong. Assistance must be rendered to people of both governments who may enter into your country in pursuit of such offenders.

7. Whilst you remain and perform the conditions of your service in good faith, integrity, and fidelity, your possessions shall be continued without interruption on the part of his Highness's government; and on this point the British Government is your guarantee, which his Highness's government approves of and agrees to.

8. All titles and forms of respect hitherto enjoyed by you shall be continued, and all requests forwarded by you shall be attended to, and if reasonable and proper, they will be granted, but if otherwise, rejected.

9. As your country adjoins the territory of his Highness, and it may be necessary in consequence to effect exchanges, either for the purpose of defining boundaries, for police arrangements, or for settling revenue matters, therefore such exchanges shall be made with the advice of the Agent of the British Government, provided they are not injurious to your interests.

10. You must appear in personal attendance yearly at the festival of the Dussorah, as well as on all occasions of ceremony and congratulation when his Highness may require you to be present in person. Whenever the establishment of his Highness may move to any great distance, you must on such occasions be present and accompany his Highness.

11. The Punt Suchew received from you a yearly payment of 2,000 rupees, which is now agreed to be transferred to his Highness on account of the elephant establishment, and you must accordingly pay this sum annually to his Highness's government.

A true translation.

(Signed) HENRY ADAMS.

-E., No. 2.—

Seal of
Capt. Grant.

E.
Terms of
Agreement.

TERMS fixed by Captain JAMES GRANT, Sahib Bahadoor, on the part of the Honourable Company, Bahadoor, with Rao Sahib MOOSHUK MIRIBAN CHIMNAJEE, Pundit Suchew.

The possessions of the Punt Suchew came under the British Government along with the rest of the country; but the antiquity and respectability of the family having been duly considered, the British Government have freely bestowed and made over to him the whole of his possessions as formerly held up to the war, with the exception of his possessions within the territory of the Nizam. The districts of the Punt being within the limits of the territory made over by treaty to his Highness the Raja of Sattara, the Punt therefore is placed under the government of his Highness; the British Government is the guarantee, and the terms are fixed as follows:

1. That the inhabitants of the country under the Punt Suchew may be protected, justice must be properly administered, and a proper police established for the prevention and detection of thieves and robbers; but if this is not attended to, and people are obliged to lay forward complaints, in consequence

quence of the want of police and justice; in that case, whatever orders may be given on the subject by his Highness's government, with the advice of the Agent of the British Government, must be carried into effect.

2. An effective police must be established in the country of the Punt Suchew, sufficient to prevent any inhabitants of his districts from committing robberies within the territories of the British Government, or of his Highness; and whenever stolen property may be pointed out within the country of the Punt, or thieves traced into it, both the property and the thieves must be delivered over to whichever of the governments may demand them, and assistance must be afforded to officers of either government who may be sent for the apprehension of criminals and offenders. In the event of a failure in these respects taking place, all arrangements made by the government of his Highness, at the recommendation of the Agent of the British Government, must be carried into effect.

3. Excepting those under the government of his Highness, no intercourse or communication by letter can be allowed with any chiefs, such as Bajee Rao Sahib, or other princes, chieftains, commanders, or others; nor is it permitted to send aid to any one whatever. This article forms the basis of the agreement, and if it is departed from, all advantages appertaining to the Punt, by virtue of the present agreement, shall be forfeited.

4. Without the knowledge and permission of Government no extra troops are to be levied, or war entered upon with any one. In all domestic disputes about relationship and such like, no appeal to arms will be permitted, but information is to be sent to the Agent of the British Government, who will communicate with the government of his Highness, and the decision given in consequence must be attended to.

5. In the event of disputes occurring relative to items of revenue which belong to the Punt Suchew in the country of the Putwurdhuns, and others, intelligence must be given to the Agent of the British Government, after which proper arrangements will be made; but no separate communication by letter is ever to be made.

6. As the country of the Punt Suchew is surrounded by the territories of the British Government and of his Highness, it may be necessary to make exchanges on account of police arrangements, or for the defining of boundaries, therefore such exchanges shall take place, provided they are not injurious to the Punt.

7. A yearly payment of ten thousand rupees was made by the Punt Suchew to the government of the Peishwa as an allowance for elephants; but the village of Sonapoor having been taken by the Peishwa's government, and which at present is in the possession of the British Government, therefore a deduction of one thousand rupees is allowed, and the annual payment fixed at nine thousand rupees to the government of his Highness, as follows:

A payment of 2,000 rupees annually made by the Punt Prithee Nidhee to the Punt Suchew is now transferred to his Highness	Rs. 2,000
Amount enam payments from the Huzzoor Mamla of Karar, formerly paid to the Punt, and now transferred to his Highness	1,000
A cash payment to be made yearly by the Punt to his Highness's government, or items of revenue or villages to be made over to the government of his Highness, as may be arranged by the Agent of the British Government, to the amount of	6,000
Total Rs.	9,000

8. All dhoomallee, dhurmadao, enam, wurshashuns, dewastun, rozindar, nemnook, dhurruck, and such like allowances which at present exist within the territory of the Punt, must be continued to their holders; there must be no occasion for complaints on these points.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

E. 2.
Terms of
Agreement.

SATTARA
PAPERS.
E. 2.
Terms of
Agreement.

9. As the country of the Punt is surrounded by the territories of the British Government and of his Highness, it is therefore required that in the event of disturbances taking place, every assistance must be given on the requisition of the Mamludars of either of the governments.

10. At the annual festival of the Dussorah the Punt Suchew must always appear in person. Under the government of his Highness all titles and honours hitherto enjoyed by the Punt Suchew shall be continued. In all ten articles, which must not be departed from.

22nd April, 1820, corresponding with 8th Rujjub Soor Sun Ashem Mijuttun Wu Ulef, or Arabic year 1220, at Sattara.

[Signature of Capt. Grant.]

True translation.

(Signed) HENRY ADAMS.

—E., No. 4.—

Seal of H. H.
the Raja.

E. 4.
Terms of
Agreement.

AGREEMENT *on the part of his Highness the RAJA of SATTARA, respecting RAJEE SREE CHIMNAJEE, Pundit Suchew, to whom these commands are issued.*

The country formerly possessed by you has been freely restored and bestowed through the liberality of the British Government, and an agreement, consisting of 10 articles, has been made out and delivered to you by Captain James Grant, Bahadoor, on the part of the British Government. Your country has come within the limits of the territory made over to his Highness by the treaty with the British Government, which having been approved of, the Huzoor, for the purpose of confirming you in possession, has determined as follows :

1. Should any disturbances take place in the territories of his Highness, or of the British Government which adjoin your country, aid must be afforded by sending all the disposable police in your district, on the requisition of the Mamludars.

2. All wuftun and other allowances hitherto possessed by you within the territory of his Highness shall be continued, and, in like manner, all items of revenue belonging to his Highness's government within your country shall continue to be paid. All doomallee villages and land, wurshashun, dewastun, rozindar, khyrat, nemnook, dhurruck, and all other allowances hitherto enjoyed within your country, must be continued without interruption ; and should at present any investigation be carrying on respecting the rights or possessions of those holding them on Government deeds, decisions must be given upon the fairest principles of justice, so that no complaints may be made. Should persons holding inheritances of the above-mentioned descriptions raise or excite disturbances or commit offences against the public peace, or should persons possessed of such inheritances die without heirs, you will fully investigate the matter and state what may appear really just, when his Highness's government, with the advice of the Agent of the British Government, will send such orders as may appear fit, which must be conformed to.

3. That the inhabitants of your country may be protected, justice must be honestly administered, and a proper police must be established for the prevention and detection of thieves and robbers ; but if this is not attended to, and unjust decisions given, or thefts and robberies become of frequent occurrence so that people may be obliged to bring forward complaints ; in that case, whatever

whatever orders may in consequence be issued by his Highness's government, these must be carried into effect.

4. Without the knowledge and orders of Government, no extra troops are to be levied, or war entered upon with any one. In all cases of domestic disputes, about relationship and such like, no appeal to arms will be permitted, but information is to be sent to Government, when such orders as may be sent on the subject, with the advice of the Agent of the British Government, must be considered binding.

5. Excepting those under the government of his Highness, no intercourse or communication by letter can be allowed with any chiefs, such as Bajee Row Sahib, or other princes, chieftains, commanders, and others, nor is it to be permitted to send aid to any one, or to become concerned in any assemblage of troops whatever. This article forms the basis of the present agreement, and if it is departed from, with the advice of the British Government your possessions shall not be continued.

6. All offenders and criminals from your country who may take shelter in the territory of his Highness shall be delivered over to you, and, in like manner, all offenders and criminals from the territories of his Highness or of the British Government who may enter your territory shall be given up and delivered over to whichever government they belong, and assistance must be rendered to all officers or people of both governments who may go into your districts in pursuit of such offenders.

7. Whilst you remain and perform the conditions of your service in good faith, integrity, and fidelity, your possessions shall be continued without interruption on the part of his Highness's government, and on this point the British Government is your guarantee, which his Highness's government approves of and agrees to.

8. All titles and honours formerly enjoyed by you shall be continued, and all requests forwarded by you shall be attended to, and if reasonable and proper they will be granted, but if otherwise, rejected.

9. As your country adjoins the territory of his Highness, and it may be necessary in consequence to effect exchanges, either for the purpose of defining boundaries for police arrangements or for settling revenue matters, therefore such exchanges shall be made, with the advice of the Agent of the British Government, provided they are not injurious to your interests.

10. You must appear in personal attendance yearly at the festival of the Dussorah, and also be present on all occasions of ceremony or congratulation when your attendance may be required by his Highness; you must also attend in person whenever the establishment of his Highness may move to any great distance.

11. A yearly payment of 10,000 rupees was made by you to Government on account of elephant establishment, but the village of Sonapoor having come into the possession of Government, a deduction of 1,000 rupees is allowed in consequence, and the payment of the balance is to be made as follows :—

A payment made annually to you by Purseram Pundit Prithee Nidhee, which is now transferred to his Highness's government	Rs.	2,000
Payment formerly made to you from the Huzzoor Mamla of Prant Kurar, now transferred to his Highness's government		1,000
A cash payment to be made yearly by you to his Highness's government, or items of revenue, land, or villages, as may be arranged by the Agent of the British Government, to the amount of	Rs.	6,000
Total Rs.		9,000

A true translation.

(Signed) HENRY ADAMS.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

E. 4.
Terms of
Agreement.

EXTRACT BOMBAY POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

*4th October, 1820.*SATTARA •
PAPERS.Extract Letter
from
Political Agent,
1 Sept. 1820.EXTRACT LETTER FROM CAPTAIN JAMES GRANT, POLITICAL
AGENT AT SATTARA, TO W. CHAPLIN, ESQ., &c. &c.*Dated 1st September, 1820.*

I now beg to inclose copies of the terms fixed by me, and of the Raja's agreement upon these terms with the Raja of Akulkote and Shaik Mera Waeekur: as these are similar to the agreements with the other Jagheerdars, it appears unnecessary to forward the English translations.

EXTRACT BOMBAY POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

*29th August, 1827.*Letter from the
Resident at Sattara,
13 Aug. 1827.(No. 68.)—LETTER FROM LIEUT. COL. A. ROBERTSON, RESIDENT
AT SATTARA, TO THE SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT.*Dated 13th August, 1827.*

Sir,—I have the honour to state, for the information of the Honourable the Governor in Council, that the Punt Suchew, who has no offspring, having been for some time past in a declining state of health, applied, about the time of my arrival here, to his Highness for permission to adopt a successor to his estates. This was duly intimated to me by the Vakeels of the Suchew, and also by his Highness, who, at the same time, apprized me that he was engaged in preparing various papers which he considered necessary to enable the British Government and his own to come to a decision on this subject.

Having now received these papers from his Highness, I have the honour to transmit copies and translates of them for the information of the Honourable the Governor in Council.

During the few days I was absent at Poona, as reported to you under date the 2nd instant, the Punt's illness assumed so alarming an appearance, that his Vakeel required that an immediate permission should be granted to proceed to adoption. To this request, his Highness, with the concurrence of Mr. Erskine, who alone happened at the time to be here, replied in the terms set forth in the accompanying memorandum delivered to me by his Highness on my return. Nothing, however, has been done under this authority by the Suchew, who, I understand, objects to the conditions on which it has been granted.

I shall take the liberty here shortly to state, for the consideration and opinion of Government, what are his Highness's views in regard to the subject of the reference.

These are, first, to impose on the successor to the present Suchew the obligation of furnishing a quota of troops for his Highness's service of the same amount, in proportion to his income, as that which the quota of the Akulkotekur bears to his estate.

2ndly. That

SATTARA
PAPERS.Letter from the
Resident at Sattara,
13 Aug. 1827.

2ndly. That the Suchew should yield his personal attendance at Sattara in discharge of the duties of his department.

3rdly. That his Highness should be advised of the opinion of the British Government as to whether what the Suchew holds in excess of enam and wuttun should not, after deducting the former fixed salary of the office, be accounted for.

4thly. That the usual nuzzur should be paid on adoption.

5thly. That in case the Suchew should survive and have offspring, an arrangement be made as to the provision to be assigned to the adopted son, to prevent future disputes.

6thly. That his Highness should be informed of the intentions of the British Government as to the property of the Suchew within its limits in case of adoption.

7thly. That he should be apprized whether in the opinion of Government any difference should be made in the conditions that it may be thought advisable to offer, in case of the adoption falling on a distant relation of the original family, or a person no relation to such family, or on a connexion of the present Suchew's own family.

8thly. That he be informed of the opinion of the British Government as to the conditions under which the Prithee Nidhee may be allowed to adopt.

The three first are the points which his Highness has most at heart, and in support of them, he adverts, in the third article of his memorandum, to the paper formerly presented to Government, respecting the practice with reference to the Purdhans in the time of his ancestors; and in the fourth, to the fact that even the Peishwa imposed modifications of their tenure on the Suchew family on former adoptions. In the sixth also, he states that the Suchew was formerly burthened with the expense of Huzzoor, Sebundy, and elephants; and that he accounted for the receipts from his districts as a Mamlutdar, while none of the Purdhans were considered as on a par with the Sirdar Jagheerdars. In the eighth article he adverts to the Purdhans remaining at Poona during the Peishwa's rule, while in the ninth he states that the Suchew's territory is larger than that of any other Jagheerdar, and yet is burthened with no obligations.

Several of the circumstances thus adverted to have already been disposed of by the opinion which Government has offered concerning them, when they were formerly brought forward in other instances by his Highness, especially those founded on ancient practices; but his Highness attaches considerable importance to the decision which Government may eventually come to on this case of the Suchew's; and though no doubt he fully recollects what has already taken place, yet he may think, that in this instance Government will be inclined to give all the considerations submitted some weight: while he is naturally enough desirous, on every new reference of this kind, to submit the same in as complete a state as he considers possible, for the opinion of the Honourable the Governor in Council. It is, no doubt, with this view that he has not only offered all his own ideas on the subject, but entered so minutely into the genealogical inquiries, the result of which is submitted, concerning the Suchew's family, the successor in which, it will appear by reference to the annexed table, has been twice supplied by adoption, and has as often deviated from the family of the first founder, *viz.* in the descendants of Mahdajee Shunker, who was adopted by Shunker Narrain, and in the adoption of the present Punt: while it would appear that the only person at all allied to the original founder now alive is Bajee Row Ragonauth, of Bhorup, and he is very distantly connected.

Considering, therefore, that it appears but very doubtful whether the present Punt was, before adoption, at all connected with the family of the original founder, or even with that of Mahdajee Shunker, and that the estates will now in all likelihood pass by the adoption about to be made by the present Punt (who, it is thought, has one of his own brothers in view as a successor), permanently into the possession of the Mandekur family, his Highness thinks this repeated failure in the descent offers a reason why some modifications may

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Letter from the
Resident at Sattara,
13 Aug. 1827.

may be made in the tenure, such as is contemplated in the first point adverted to in the preceding enumeration of his wishes.

As to the second point, though its concession might gratify the personal feelings of his Highness, I am not aware that it would be productive of any other good consequences, while it might be attended with many inconveniences.

The third point, like the preceding, involves a revival of the ancient order of things, which seem contrary to our hitherto policy here; and, therefore, even if it be admitted that the tenure of the Suchew should be modified, this mode of doing so does not appear advisable.

The fourth may be settled with reference to the rules of his Highness's government, established in the time of Capt. Grant, concerning nuzzurs on successions, to which his Highness adverts in the figured statement and in his memorandum.

The other points require no specific observation on my part further than that, as the question of adoption by the Prithee Nidhee will no doubt soon come on, it will be convenient, in reference to the views of his Highness now submitted for consideration, that he should be at once placed in possession of the opinion of the British Government.

As referring to his Highness's observation about the obligation during the Peishwa's time on the Punt Suchew to maintain Huzzoor elephants, it should be remarked that he now pays 9,000 rupees a year to his Highness on that account.

(Signed) A. ROBERTSON,
Resident.

Sattara,
13th August, 1827.

YAD ON THE PART OF HIS HIGHNESS TO THE RESIDENT. (*Soorsuna Asshereen Myatain wa Aluf.*)

The Suchew's Vakeel, Daojee Dhondco, has represented that the Punt wishes to adopt a son, and that he will be guided by the Sirkar's wishes on that subject. The Sirkar has replied to the Vakeel, that after deliberation, an answer will be transmitted.

1. In case of the concurrence of the British Government in the adoption of a son, the accustomed nuzzur will be required according to the established rule of this government.

2. In case of a son being born to the Suchew, after the adoption of one at present with the knowledge of Government, it will be proper to determine what provision is to be made for the adopted son. It is wished to know, whether this should be done now. It may be better that it should, lest any disputes should arise hereafter between the two.

3. A paper was formerly given in respecting the practice in the time of Sheo Maharaj, as to the arrangements that were made respecting the eight Purdhans of the empire, which is, no doubt, fresh in the memory of the British Government.

4. There were two or three adoptions in the Peishwa's government in the Suchew's family, at each of which times the usual nuzzur was paid; and under certain pleas the Peishwa also resumed certain forts and some part of the country of the Suchew.

5. The Suchew has some rights in the territory of the British Government; in case of a son by birth succeeding, or an adopted son, how are these rights to be continued?

6. In case of succession by a son, whether by birth or adoption, the liver will inherit the wuttun and enam, but what is to be done as to the remainder (*i. e.* the jagheer)? Should this be regular according to the former personal allowances

ances of the eight Purdhans, or not, the country that is under the Suchew was formerly burthened with the expense of Huzzoors, Sebundy, and elephants; and he also accounted for the collections as for those of a Mamlut. The eight Purdhans were not on the same footing as the other Sirdar Jagheerdars.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Letter from the
Resident at Sattara.

7. The British Government, having regard to the treaty and the arrangement made for the Jagheerdars, will afford its advice, which will be abided by.

8. Formerly each of the Purdhans used to be employed in his own particular department, and remained at the Huzzoor, but the Peishwa on his own account abolished this custom, and now the custom introduced by the British Government is adhered to: but it would be better were the son, or adopted son, of the present Suchew to be obliged to be present at the durbar, and perform his duties there.

9. The Suchew in the Peishwa's time used generally to live in Poona, which the British Government is aware of; all the other Jagheerdars perform some service to the state, and the Punt has a larger territory than any of them; nor does the present Suchew keep up the feelkhana as formerly: now it appears to us that some Surinjam, either horse or foot, should be arranged for, on principles similar to those of the other Jagheerdars who yield service, to commence from the successor of the present Suchew, whether he be an heir of his body, or of adoption. The requiring of service from the Suchew would strengthen our power and dignity, which it has always been the wish of the British Government to maintain; for that reason this yad has been drawn up. The whole of this proposition having been considered, the opinion of the British Government is requested as to what may appear most advisable, according to which a communication will be made to the Suchew. It is the wish of the Government that the Suchew should adopt an heir to enjoy his estates, but it is desirable to be made acquainted with the customs of the British Government in such cases, and particularly its opinion on this, according to which we shall act.

10. As there are three classes from which adoption may, according to the Suchew's statement, be made, *viz.* from a family who claims relationship with the original family to the extent of three days sootuck (or uncleanness in case of death), from a family having no relationship with the family (*i. e.* purgo-tree), or from the family to which the present Punt belongs, it is desirable to know the opinion of the British Government as to what should be done in each of these cases of adoption, when we shall regulate our proceedings accordingly. With reference to this, we have sent with this the genealogical table of the family; from it will be seen that there are no descendants of the original founder of the dignity.

11. The advice of the British Government is also requested in the case of the Punt Prithce Nidhee, who has no relations with exception of the Veshal-gurkur (who is so near a relative, that on his death he will continue in sootuck for ten days) the Prithce Nidhee at Kolapoor, but who has no descendants, and has himself therefore recourse to adoption for an heir.

These eleven paragraphs are transmitted for the opinion of the British Government, in whose favour our power and dignity rests. We have mentioned what appears to us the best mode of proceeding, but we wait for the advice of Government, which will be abided by.

True Translation.

(Signed) A. ROBERTSON,
Resident.

EXTRACT BOMBAY

**SATTARA
PAPERS.**

(No. 78.)—**MINUTE BY THE PRESIDENT,**

Dated 24th August, 1827.

**Minute
by the President,
24 Aug. 1827.**

I would recommend that the Raja should be informed that as the Punt Suchew was the first chief of rank who came over from the Peishwa, he has personal claims in addition to those he derives from his representing the founder of the family of the Suchews; that during the Peishwa's time he was rather considered as a descendant than a subject, and that though the Peishwa took nuzzurs on successions, he never exacted service. On these grounds, if he had remained under the British Government, he would have been allowed to adopt without any new terms being imposed on him, it having been the intention of this Government that he should not be in a worse situation than he was under the Peishwa.

The Raja will probably not think it proper that he should suffer from having voluntarily chosen to hold his lands of his Highness rather than of the British Government. It would, therefore, be the most liberal plan for his Highness to allow him to adopt, merely taking a nuzzur for the privilege. This, therefore, is the proceeding which the Governor in Council would recommend to his Highness. As, however, the person to be adopted, is one who has of himself no claim whatever to succeed, there will be no injustice (if such be the Raja's view of the case) in his annexing some conditions to his succession.

They should, however, be of a moderate character, and his furnishing a quota of horse for the use of the state to which he belongs, seems amongst the most reasonable. The quota, however, should be moderate in proportion to those of the chiefs who have always held their lands on a military tenure. His attendance at Sattara and his accounting for all his lands except wuttun, would be destructive of the footing on which the Punt Suchew has long been established.

In answer to the Raja's question regarding the Suchew's possessions in the British territories, he may be informed that, in this instance, the Government will continue them to the adopted son.

There seems no objection to the Raja's requesting the Suchew to fix an allowance for his adopted son, in case a son should hereafter be born to him.

With regard to the Prithee Nidhee, I am directed to observe that, he having no personal claims on the British Government, in the event of his death without any relation entitled to succeed him, it will rest with the Raja to make such arrangements regarding his jagheer as he may think equitable.

Should he leave no relation except the Veshalgur Prithee Nidhee, that person being the subject of a foreign state, it does not seem expedient that he should be allowed to hold a surinjam in the Raja's country. He should, however, be allowed his claim to wuttun, or other hereditary property, according to the Hindoo law.

(Signed) **M. ELPHINSTONE.**

24th August, 1827.

**Letter to the
Punt Suchew.**

(No. 79.)—The following **LETTER** is written to the **PUNT SUCHEW**, through the Persian Secretary.

(After compliments.)

I have had the pleasure to receive your letter of the 25th Mohurram, and have heard of your illness with great regret. I hope, however, that you will ere long recover, and that you may live to transmit your possessions to your own descendants.

With regard to the terms proposed to be annexed to the adoption, it must be observed, that although you and your heirs are to hold your jagheer on certain stipulated terms, yet that, on a total failure of heirs, it must revert to his

his Highness the Raja, and that if his Highness allows it to be continued in such a case by adoption or otherwise, his Highness is at liberty to attach what conditions he thinks expedient to the permission.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Letter to the
Punt Suchew.

As to the terms, this Government has no reason to think that the Raja's demands will be unreasonable, and will recommend your case to his consideration; you, however, must recollect that you voluntarily preferred the Raja's sovereignty, the decision must therefore rest with his Highness, the British Government not being able to interfere, unless there be a breach of the agreement.

For the rest,

&c. &c. &c.

True copy.

(Signed) W. H. WATHEN,

Persian Secretary to Government.

LETTER FROM MR. CHIEF SECRETARY NEWNHAM, TO THE
RESIDENT AT SATTARA.

Letter from the
Chief Secretary to
Government to the
Resident at Sattara,
(No date.)

No Date.

Sir,—I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch dated the 13th instant, with its several enclosures regarding the adoption of a son by the Punt Suchew, and to communicate to you the sentiments of the Governor in Council on the point at issue.

You will be pleased to inform his Highness the Raja, that as the Punt Suchew was the first chief of rank who came over from the Peishwa, he has personal claims in addition to those he derives from his representing the founder of the family of the Suchew; that during the Peishwa's time he was rather considered as a dependant than a subject, and that though the Peishwa took nuzzurs on successions, he never exacted service; on these grounds if he had remained under the British Government, he would have been allowed to adopt without any new terms being imposed on him, it having been the intention of this Government that he should not be in a worse situation than he was under the Peishwa.

The Raja will probably not think it proper that he should suffer from having voluntarily chosen to hold his lands of his Highness rather than of the British Government. It would, therefore, be the most liberal plan for his Highness to allow him to adopt, merely taking a nuzzur for the privilege. This, therefore, is the proceeding which the Governor in Council would recommend to his Highness. As, however, the person to be adopted is one who has of himself no claim whatever to succeed, there will be no injustice (if such be the Raja's view of the case) in his annexing some conditions to his succession.

They should, however, be of a moderate character, and his furnishing a quota of horse for the use of the state to which he belongs, seems among the most reasonable. The quota, however, should be moderate in proportion to those of the chiefs, who have always held their lands on a military tenure. His attendance at Sattara, and his accounting for all his lands except wutun, would be destructive of the footing on which the Punt Suchew has long been established.

In answer to the Raja's question regarding the Suchew's possessions in the British territories, he may be informed, that in this instance the Government will continue them to the adopted son.

There seems no objection to the Raja's requesting the Suchew to fix an allowance for his adopted son, in case a son should hereafter be born to him.

With

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Letter from the
Chief Secretary to
Government to the
Resident at Sattara,
(No date.)

With regard to the Prithee Nidhee, I am directed to observe, that he having no personal claims on the British Government, in the event of his death without any relation entitled to succeed him, it will rest with the Raja to make such arrangements regarding his jagheer as he may think equitable.

Should he leave no relation except the Veshalgur Prithee Nidhee, that person being the subject of a foreign state, it does not seem expedient that he should be allowed to hold a surinjam in the Raja's country. He should, however, be allowed his claim to wuttun, or other hereditary property, according to the Hindoo law.

I have the honour to transmit to you an original letter to the Punt Suchew, in reply to one received from the chief, together with English versions for your information.

(Signed) W. NEWNHAM,
Chief Secretary.

EXTRACT BOMBAY POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

19th September, 1832.

Letter from
J. Warden, Esq.
to the Secretary to
Government,
25 Aug. 1832.

(No. 3209.)—LETTER FROM J. WARDEN, ESQ., DEPUTY AGENT FOR SIRDARS IN THE DECCAN, TO THE SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,

Dated the 25th August, 1832.

Sir,—I have the honour in the Agent's absence, to submit, for the consideration and orders of the Right Honourable the Governor in Council, the accompanying copy of a letter to, and reply from, the Resident at Sattara.

2. The facts are these: Gopeeka Bacc Joglekur, an inhabitant of Poona, preferred a claim in the Agent's office against Umeer Singh Seerke and Jan-najec Seerke, whom his Highness the Raja of Sattara calls his subjects, but whom he would have more correctly described as his relations, but British subjects, Sirdars of the third class, owners of villages in the Concan and Sur Deshmooks under grants by the British Government of villages in the Poona zilla belonging to the Punt Suchew.

3. I endeavoured to accommodate these claims, by writing three times to the Seerkes on the subject, but as they took no notice of my communications, I was obliged to allow the claimant to prosecute them, when a decree was passed awarding the principal amount merely of the claim, and that to be recovered by such instalments only as I might direct.

4. These gentlemen took no notice of my proceedings, either by pleading, by appealing to the higher court of the Agent, or by remonstrance to me; and execution of the decree was accordingly moved by, and allowed to, the plaintiff, and attachment of the villages in the Concan effected through the Judge of that zilla, and of the fees derived from the Sur Deshmooke in the Poona district, through the Nazir of the Adawlut, whose duty it is to execute decrees of the Agent's department.

5. It afterwards occurred to me, as the villages from which these fees are derived, are the "enam," or private property of the Punt Suchew, that he should be the medium of attachment in preference to the Nazir. He has complied with my requisition accordingly, but not without an attempt on the part of the Raja of Sattara to prevent it, and which attempt led to my addressing the Resident.

6. The

6. The Raja sent me back the papers I had submitted to him, with a message that he does not acknowledge the authority of the Poona Adawlut within the territory of which by treaty he is sovereign, and that he cannot waive his undoubted right to administer justice within his own sovereignty, his Adawlut being open to all who choose to appeal to it against his subjects.

The Resident, while he invites me to state the grounds of my proceedings, is inclined to coincide with the Raja, because the 1st article of the treaty* makes him sovereign of the districts specified in the schedule, which schedule defines the boundaries of his dominions, but adds, that those boundaries are "exclusive of jagheers," an expression which the Resident thinks cannot be limited to jagheers within the boundaries of his dominions, because the possessions of the Punt Suchew are afterwards particularly named, and the Raja of Akulkote's whole jagheer is without the boundary.

7. The Resident further thinks that I am acting in opposition to the opinions of Mr. Elphinstone and Mr. Chaplin.

8. Before proceeding to the question of right, I would notice, that the manner in which the Raja has treated the judicial authorities here is different from the treatment he expects and receives from them. About a month ago, the Resident forwarded a memorandum from the Raja, begging the judge to deliver to a person he named certain property under the care of the Nazir of the Court, as belonging to one who had died without an heir-at-law.

9. On the Raja certifying to the heir, I resigned the property at once, and think his Highness would have considered me rather an uncourteous representative of the British Government if I had sent him back his memorandum as I might have done, with a message that the Poona Adawlut did not recognize the authority of the Raja of Sattara, and that if his subject wanted the property, he must petition the Court, and prove before it that he was the heir.

10. But to the question of the right. The head of the family of the Punt Suchew has for several generations held the rank of one of the hereditary counsellors of the great Rajas of Sattara, whose dominions extended over this part of India, and the Punt Suchew, like peers in other countries, had extensive enams, or private landed property, given him by the Raja Shree Maharaj, in the Deccan, Candeish, the Concans, and the Nizam's country, but which,† on the usurpation of the Peishwas, was burdened with an annual tribute of 10,000 rupees, as an "allowance for elephants."

11. When the British Government conquered the territories of the Peishwa, the proprietary right of the Punt Suchew was immediately acknowledged, and his estates resigned to him before the battle of Ashtee, and while the present Raja of Sattara was yet a prisoner in the Peishwa's camp. When his Highness was captured, the British Commissioner promised him a sovereignty over the country extending from the Neera and Bheema to the Krisna and Wurna, and from the Western Ghauts to the city of Pandurpoor, exclusive of jagheers within those limits; and a part (though a very small‡ part) of the country already ceded to the Punt Suchew lay within those limits, and he was the descendant of one of the hereditary counsellors of the Rajas of Sattara; the Punt Suchew was himself placed under the new Raja, and such of his possessions as lay within his boundary included, with the guarantee of the British Government, within his Highness's sovereignty, the Raja receiving nine-tenths of the tribute imposed by the Peishwas, and the homage of the hereditary minister of his house.

12. But that *all* the possessions of the Punt Suchew were not placed under the

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Letter from
J. Warden, Esq. to
the Secretary to
Government,
25 Aug. 1832.

* The Treaty will be found at page 13 of Treaties and Engagements concluded in 1817 and 1818.
(Signed) J. W.

† See "Terms concluded with the Punt Suchew" in enclosure A.

‡ In the British territory the Punt Suchew has property yielding an annual revenue of Rs. 170,000. His income from his estates in the Sattara country is only Rs. 15,000 per annum.

(Signed) J. W.

Letter from
J. Warden, Esq. to
the Secretary to
Government,
25 Aug. 1832.

the sovereignty of the Raja is proved from the very first line of "The schedule of the treaty," which is as follows: "That portion of Nurthurie in the Poona Prant, and that share of Seerwul which lies south of the Neera river."

13. Now Seerwul is a district, the whole of which is the private property (enam) of the Punt Suchew, some of the villages being to the north of the Neera, and some to the south of it; but the Raja's sovereignty is expressly confined to those south of it, and the irresistible conclusion therefore is, that the possessions of the Punt Suchew, to the north of the river and elsewhere without the limits of the Raja's dominions, are not under his sovereignty at all.

14. But allowing for an instant that the Punt Suchew is not an Enamdar, but a Jagheerdar, a reference to the original Mahratta placed opposite the English version of the schedule will shew, that the boundaries of the Raja's dominions are defined "exclusive of jagheers *within those limits*" (*yanché muddé*) which were not to belong to his Highness, but to be held and administered by the Jagheerdars under the guarantee* of the government who bestowed them, some of the Jagheerdars being bound by a separate agreement to pay fealty and do service to the Raja for their land and some not, but of whose estates none can ever lapse to the Raja except by permission, as shewn in the following passage of a letter from the Political Agent (through whom the treaty was concluded) to the Commissioner in the Deccan, dated February 7th, 1822: "I have not yet given his Highness the list of jagheers which are to revert to his government, conceiving it would be more advisable to keep back the information to the latest period."

15. But on this principle, the Resident argues further, the whole jagheer of Akulkote, which is without the limits, would be excluded from the Raja's sovereignty; but the Jagheerdar of Akulkote is not under Sattara because he lives within or without the Sattara frontier, but because, when his jagheer, or feudal estate held on condition of serving the lord paramount with a military force, was bestowed on him by the British Government, Mr. Elphinstone asked him, as his jagheer was originally given by one of the great Rajas of Sattara, whether he would pay fealty and do service for it to the Raja or to the British Government, and under the guarantee of the latter against the resumption of the jagheer, he chose the former; and which homage and service with the prescribed number of horse is all the Raja can demand, the fiscal and judicial administration of the country being conducted by the Jagheerdar.

16. On the same principle, the homage and service due from the Putwurdhuns and other Jagheerdars, which is a burden to the plain government of the British, might have been allowed to swell the pomp of the Raja, without, as a necessary consequence, their estates forming part of his dominions.

17. For if position alone make a chief a feudatory of Sattara, how does it happen that there is Bulwunt Rao Madhoo Rastiah, a British Sirdar of the first class, holding a military jagheer of the British Government in the heart of the Sattara country, but paying no homage to, and acknowledging no superiority over him on the part of the Raja, except such as every man who lives under the protection of a government must concede to the general laws established in it for the public good.

18. In short, the only practicable interpretation of the treaty, as it appears to me, is that which I have given in the fourteenth paragraph.

19. But the Resident considers lastly, that my proceedings are opposed to the practice and opinions of Mr. Elphinstone and Mr. Chaplin. On this point I beg leave to refer his Lordship in Council to the enclosed extracts from their correspondence, the result of which was the establishment of a principle by Mr. Elphinstone's government, and which has been acted on by succeeding governors,

* Article VII. of the Treaty:—"The possessions of the Jagheerdars within his Highness's territory are to be under the guarantee of the British Government, which, on the other hand, engages it to secure their performing the service which they owe to his Highness, according to established customs."

governors, that the agent was to take cognizance of claims against the Punt Suchew as a Sirdar of the first class, when preferred by British subjects and arising out of transactions occurring in British territory, leaving others to the Raja; and an order of Government was accordingly issued to admit a suit against the Punt Suchew, whose name at this moment stands as a defendant before the Agent.

20. If, then, the Punt Suchew himself is, in respect to his landed property in British territory, under the Agent's jurisdiction, *a fortiori*, must a British subject be so, and a Sirdar collecting fees from that landed property under a grant from the British Government.

21. I could multiply instances of this sort, such as the daily jurisdiction exercised by the magistrate of Poona over the Punt's villages, the commutation effected in the Commissioner's office of the Punt's rights in Candeish, and exchanges of territory with him in the Concan, without even consulting the Raja; but I think I must have established that the Raja of Sattara has no more sovereignty, by treaty or by practice, over the Punt Suchew's extensive possessions in British territory than the King of England would have over an estate in France, because the owner of it happened to be a British peer or a British minister; and I am supported in all I have said by the opinion of Balajee Punt Natoo, who, as Mr. Elphinstone's confidential native agent, superintended at Sattara the preparation of the treaty and schedule on which the Raja founds his pretensions.

22. As to Tanajec and Ameer Sing Seerke, whose contumacious contempt of the Agent's authority has caused this correspondence, I would submit to his Lordship in Council whether they should not be directed to place themselves in communication with this office for the liquidation of their just debts, and failing to do so, that they should be told, as they avail themselves of their retreat and connection at Sattara to set at defiance the regulations of the mildest jurisdiction under which British subjects were ever placed in any part of the world, that their names will be erased from the list of its Sirdars, a process by which they will most readily distinguish the government to which they owe allegiance; as it will place them not only under the Poona Adawlut (from which they are now exempted), but under the Concan Adawlut also; and from which I have now an unanswered reference, as to whether Seerke's villages in the Concan are to be sold, or merely their proceeds attached, in satisfaction of my decree.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) J. WARDEN,

Poona, Agent's Office,
25th August, 1832.

Deputy Agent.

I have sent the Resident a copy of this letter.

(Signed) J. WARDEN,

Deputy Agent.

Gopeeka Bacc Joglekur	...	...	...	Plaintiff,
		<i>versus</i>		
Ameer Sing and Tanajee Seerkes	...	...	...	Defendants.

Claim Rs. 16,462. 2.

LETTER FROM J. WARDEN, ESQ., DEPUTY AGENT, &c., TO
LIEUTENANT-COLONEL LODWICK, RESIDENT AT SATTARA,

Dated 3rd August, 1832.

Sir,—In forwarding to you, for the consideration of his Highness the Raja a Mahratta memorandum, with copy of a report by the Nazir of the Poona Adawlut,

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Letter from
J. Warden, Esq. to
the Secretary to
Government,
25 Aug. 1832.

Letter from
J. Warden, Esq. to
Lieut.-Col.
Lodwick, .
3 Aug. 1832.

**SATTARA
PAPERS.**

Letter from
J. Warden, Esq. to
Lieut.-Col.
Lodwick,
3 Aug. 1832.

Adawlut, and of an order issued by the Punt Suchew, I have the honour, in the absence of the Agent, to request that you will be so good as to point out to his Highness that the property attached is situated in villages to the north of the river Neera, and without, therefore, the boundary of the Sattara territory; and that the Punt Suchew is, in respect to such villages, under the British Government.

2. Although the Punt Suchew has of himself no objection to the mode in which judicial process has in this case issued, I think the attachment should in the first instance have been attempted through his intervention, and, that failing, only to have exerted the direct authority of the Nazir; and I have written accordingly to the Punt Suchew to request him to give effect to the decree passed by me against Seerke.

I have the honour to be, &c.,

(Signed) J. WARDEN,

Poona, Agent's Office,
3rd August, 1832.

Deputy Agent.

Letter from Lieut.-
Col. Lodwick to
J. Warden, Esq.
13 Aug. 1832.

**LETTER FROM LIEUTENANT-COLONEL LODWICK, RESIDENT
AT SATTARA, TO J. WARDEN, ESQ., DEPUTY AGENT FOR
SIRDARS, POONA,**

Dated 13th August, 1832.

Sir,—I had the honour of receiving your letter of the 3rd instant, accompanied by copies of report of proceedings of the Poona Adawlut in the case of Gopeeka Bae Joglekur, Plaintiff, *versus* Ameer Sing and Tanajee Seerkes, Defendants.

2. Previously to submitting the subject to the consideration of his Highness the Raja, I, searched the dufur, and made inquiry of my native agent as to similar proceedings having been received, but can discover no precedents.

3. His Highness does not acknowledge the authority of the Poona Adawlut within the territory of which by the treaty with the British Government he is undoubted sovereign.

4. On reference to article 1st. "The British Government agrees to cede "in perpetual sovereignty to the Raja of Sattara, his heirs and successors, "the districts specified in the annexed schedule."

5. On reference to the schedule, it appears that the boundaries of his immediate territories are defined, but in thus defining them a clause is inserted, "Exclusive of jagheers, &c.," thus plainly expressive of his Highness having sovereign power over such jagheers, although not within the specified limits.

6. To prevent the possibility of the expression being taken in a different light, the schedule, after naming the pergunnas and villages in his Highness's immediate dominions, adds, "The possessions of the Raja of Akulkote, the Punt Suchew, the Punt Prithee Nidhee, the jagheer of Dufflay, &c. &c. &c."

7. No stipulation is made in the treaty as to the Punt Suchew being, in respect to such villages as are without the boundary of the Sattara territory, under the British Government; upon a similar principle the entire jagheer of Akulkote must be under the British Government.

8. His Highness the Raja cannot waive his undoubted right to administer justice within his own sovereignty, his Adawlut being open to all who choose to appeal to it for redress against his subjects, and the papers are returned after being submitted to him as requested.

9. It is possible that I may have taken an erroneous view of this novel case, and I shall be glad to receive information which may possibly induce me to alter

alter my opinion, the interference of the Poona Adawlut appearing to me at present contrary to the treaty, and in direct opposition to the opinions of Mr. Elphinstone and Mr. Chaplin whose letters invariably express conviction of the Raja's sovereignty over the jagheer, of which sovereignty the administration of justice is an undoubted privilege.

I have, &c.

(Signed) P. LODWICK,
Resident.

Sattara,
13th August, 1832.

True Copies.
JOHN WARDEN,
Deputy Agent.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Letter from Lieut.-
Col. Lodwick to
J. Warden, Esq.
13 Aug. 1832.

(No. 3211.)—LETTER FROM MR. CHIEF SECRETARY NEWNHAM,
TO G. W. ANDERSON, ESQ., JUDGE AND SESSION JUDGE,

Dated 16th April, 1827.

Letter from
Chief Secretary
Newnham to
G. W. Anderson,
Esq.
16 April, 1827.

Sir,—I have the honour to transmit to you a copy of a correspondence enumerated in the margin* regarding the settlement of several just debts due to Sahowkars by the Punt Suchew.

2. In submitting these documents, it seems a question how far Government should enforce the payment of debts owed by a chief of the Raja of Sattara, on the ground of his being entitled to pecuniary payments from our territory.

3. The fairest way might be to enforce those only which are due to our subjects, leaving all others to the Raja.

4. The Governor in Council requests that you will be good enough to state how far the above description applies to the creditors whose claims are now under consideration.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. NEWNHAM,
Chief Secretary,

Bombay Castle,
16th April, 1827.

(No. 10 of 1825.)—LETTER FROM W. CHAPLIN, ESQ., COMMISSIONER IN THE DECCAN, TO MR. CHIEF SECRETARY NEWNHAM, .

Dated 15th January, 1825.

Letter from
W. Chaplin, Esq.
to Chief Secretary
Newnham,
15 Jan. 1825.

Sir,—The Punt Suchew, notwithstanding my reiterated calls upon him, refusing to come to a settlement of several just debts due to Sahowkars and other subjects of the British Government, I request you will do me the honour to submit the circumstance to Government, that I may be favoured with its sentiments as to the best mode of obtaining redress for such creditors.

The Punt Suchew is better off now than he was at the time when these debts were contracted, and there appears to be an evident want of principle on

From the Commissioner in the Deccan, dated 15th January, 1825.
Reply to do 24th do.
From the Commissioner (with enclosures), dated 24th May, 1826.
Reply to do 10th June

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Letter from
W. Chaplin, Esq.
to Chief Secretary
Newnham,
5 Jan. 1825.

on his part in evading the payment; the best mode of inducing him to attend to my representations in respect to such matters, would probably be that of temporarily resuming some of his Mokassa Sahotra and Baptee in the Company's territories.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. CHAPLIN,

Commissioner.

Camp at Sanglee,
15th January, 1825.

Letter from
Chief Secretary
Newnham to
the Commissioner
in the Deccan,
24 Jan. 1825.

(No. 98 of 1825.)—LETTER FROM MR. CHIEF SECRETARY NEWNHAM TO THE COMMISSIONER IN THE DECCAN,

Dated 24th January, 1825.

Sir,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, dated the 15th inst. respecting the refusal of the Punt Suchew to come to a settlement of his just debts.

2. The Governor in Council approves of the mode suggested by you for the payment of the Punt's debts, but before acting on it, he requests that you will satisfy yourself, either that a similar step has been adopted in the Peishwa's time, or that other measures, proving an equal degree of interference, have then been resorted to.

3. The Governor in Council takes it for granted that these claims relate to some possessions of the Punt's within the Company's territories, and no-wise connected with the Raja of Sattara.

4. If the interference of the British Government would at all clash with the sovereignty of the latter prince, any measure adopted must be effected through the Resident at Sattara, in communication with his Highness.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. NEWNHAM,

Chief Secretary.

Bombay Castle,
24th January, 1825.

Extract Letter
from the late Com-
missioner in the
Deccan,
24 May, 1826.

EXTRACT FROM A LETTER FROM THE LATE COMMISSIONER
IN THE DECCAN TO GOVERNMENT,

Dated the 24th May, 1826.

Para. 2. Three precedents having been found of the sequestration of villages and umuls by the late Government, for the purpose of liquidating the debts of the holders, I think that the same course may with great propriety be followed in regard to the Punt's possessions in the British territory, which, being quite unconnected with the Raja of Sattara, the measure would in no respect clash with his sovereignty.

LETTER FROM G. W. ANDERSON, ESQ., AGENT AT POONA,
TO MR. SECRETARY NORRIS,

Dated 9th April, 1827.

Sir,—I do myself the honour to reply to your letter of the 5th instant, calling for my opinion and report upon a petition from Gungadhur Trimbukh Bhut.

It appears that Gungadhur Trimbukh had the mamlut of the Punt Suchew's districts for eleven years many years ago, and that he makes claim for a balance of advances not covered by the collections. I believe the Punt Suchew answers this by the averment, that an adjustment of the accounts of the management of the mamlut, whilst in the hands of the petitioner, would shew a balance in his (the Punt's) favour.

Gungadhur Trimbukh is a native of the Concan and resides in Poona.

The Punt Suchew holding lands in the British territory, I believe there can be no question of his being subject, so far as those lands are concerned or so far as their value will yield, to claims advanced in conformity with the rules established by the Government for the administration of justice, whosoever the complainant may be. In the same manner, I should consider that any payment derived from the Government forming a property would be exigible to the liquidation of debts declared due by the authority constituted for the decision of these claims.

Gungadhur Trimbukh is a British subject, if therefore he declines to submit his claim to the jurisdiction of the Sattara Raja, however desirable we might esteem that course, I am of opinion the Government can in no other way act than to see that justice is done to him under the rules, and in the manner provided for the general adjudication of similar cases.

I have, &c.

(Signed) G. W. ANDERSON,

Agent.

Agent's Office,
9th April, 1827.

(No. 643 of 1827.)—LETTER FROM MR. SECRETARY NORRIS TO
J. A. DUNLOP, ESQ., AGENT FOR THE SETTLEMENT OF
DEBTS OF SIRDARS IN THE DECCAN,

Dated 24th April, 1827.

Sir,—I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your predecessor's letter of the 9th instant, reporting upon Gungadhur Trimbukh's claim on the Punt Suchew's districts while he had the mamlut some years ago.

The Governor in Council authorizes you to investigate this case, and report to Government in the manner laid down in the rules regarding Sirdars' suits.

The Governor in Council is not, however, prepared to admit that the circumstance of the Punt Suchew having land within the Honourable Company's territory, gives this Government a right to interfere in disputes originating with persons not British subjects, and in matters transacted beyond British jurisdiction.

I have, &c.

(Signed) C. NORRIS,

Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle,
24th April, 1827.

True Copies.

(Signed) J. WARDEN,

Deputy Agent.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Letter from the
Agent at Poona to
Mr. Secretary
Norris,
9 April, 1827.

Letter from
Mr. Secretary
Norris to
J. A. Dunlop, Esq.
24 April, 1827.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

(No. 3212.)—LETTER FROM MR. SECRETARY BAX TO THE
RESIDENT AT SATTARA,

Dated 13th September, 1832.

Letter from
Mr. Secretary Bax
to the Resident at
Sattara.

Sir,—With reference to your correspondence with the Deputy Agent for Sirdars regarding the case of Gopeeka Baee Joglekur *versus* Ameer Sing and Tanajee Seerke, I am directed by the Right Honourable the Governor in Council to inform you that Government awaits a communication from you on this subject.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. BAX,

Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle,
13th September, 1832.

EXTRACT BOMBAY POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

10th October, 1832.

Letter from
the Resident at
Sattara to Mr.
Secretary Bax,
19 Sept. 1832.

(No. 3494.)—LETTER FROM LIEUTENANT COLONEL LODWICK,
RESIDENT AT SATTARA, TO MR. SECRETARY BAX.

Dated 19th September, 1832.

Sir,—In acknowledging the honour of your letter, No. 1550, dated the 13th instant, apprizing me that Government awaits a communication from me in the case of Gopeeka Baee Joglekur *versus* Ameer Sing and Tanajee Seerke, I lose no time in submitting to the Right Honourable the Governor in Council such remarks upon the Deputy Agent's communication to Government as appear called for.

2. The Deputy Agent's letter to me of the 3rd August, and my reply of the 13th, having been submitted, I need but advert to them so far as to observe, that in returning the proceedings of the Court in the case above mentioned, no disrespect whatever was intended towards a British authority; they were returned as relating to a subject on which the Raja's government declined all interference; the proceedings of the Agent apparently resting upon authority or precedent with which I was not acquainted until the receipt of that gentleman's letter to Government, No. 76 of 1832. How far that authority and those precedents justify the Deputy Agent's proceedings in the present case, it would be presumptuous in me to offer an opinion, as the subject is submitted by him to Government. I cannot, however, permit the remarks that gentleman has made on the rights of the Raja as established by the treaty of Sattara to pass without comment, lest it should be supposed I coincide in opinion with him.

3. In paras. 10 to 14 an attempt is made to invalidate the claims of the Raja of Sattara to the sovereignty of the jahgeers placed under him by treaty.

4. I have read that treaty most attentively, and it appears to me that the very arguments used by the Deputy Agent against my construction of it, tend most strongly to its support.

5. Had the Jagheerdars been independent of the Sattara Raja, it would have been a mockery on the part of the Raja, and that with the concurrence of the British

British Government, to have granted terms attested by the seal of Captain Grant, in which the following is a passage common to the whole:—"The districts of the Punt being within the limits of the territory made over by treaty to his Highness the Raja of Sattara, the Punt therefore is placed under the government of his Highness; the British Government is the guarantee, and the terms are fixed as follows."

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Letter from
the Resident at
Sattara to Mr.
Secretary Bax,
10 Sept. 1832.

6. The very passage from Captain Grant's letter of February 7th, 1832, quoted in the 14th para. of the Deputy Agent's letter, is sufficient proof that certain jagheers were to revert to his Highness the Raja, and in the first and original copy of the schedule, which was part of the treaty, after enumerating the districts, &c., of his immediate dominions, the expression follows, "Together with the possessions of the Raja of Akulkote, the Punt Suchew, &c., &c."

7. The Deputy Agent makes a distinction between enam property and jagheer, as concerns the Punt Suchew, but the present Punt certainly did not inherit either one or the other, but attained both, if there is a distinction, by adoption. The accompanying letter from the Honourable Mr. Elphinstone, then governor, to the late Punt, a short time previous to his decease, appears to me so powerful a commentary upon the treaty of Sattara by the very authority under whose orders it was framed, that nothing further is required to establish the Raja's right to full sovereignty over his Jagheerdars, unless it can be proved that the enam lands came to the present Punt by hereditary descent, and not with the jagheer, by adoption.

8. I conceive it must not be lost sight of, that the treaty of Sattara was signed so early as the 25th September, 1819, and when, at a subsequent period, the several jagheers had been granted, the Jagheerdars were required to decide whether they would be subject to the British Government or the Raja of Sattara, and agreements were made out accordingly. That on the part of his Highness the Raja and the Punt Suchew, is dated 22nd April, 1820.

9. The treaty of September, 1819, defines the territory of the Raja as a sovereign prince, free from all control. The schedule, supplementary to that treaty, and to which it refers, after defining the general frontiers of his immediate territories, exclusive of jagheers, proceeds to mention the several jagheers that are subject to his sovereignty.

10. I will not occupy the time of the Right Honourable the Governor in Council, by entering further into a question which is removed from the case at issue, and should have confined myself to the exculpation of his Highness the Raja from the accusation made or implied by the Deputy Agent of treating his authority with disrespect, had not that gentleman offered several opinions which appear to me in direct opposition to the literal meaning of the treaty, and the sentiments of the high authority who was the framer of it.

I have, &c.

(Signed) P. LODWICK,
Resident.

Sattara,
19th September, 1832.

COPY OF A LETTER FROM THE HONOURABLE THE GOVERNOR TO THE PUNT SUCHEW,

Dated 28th August, 1827.

Letter from
the Governor to
the Punt Suchew,
28 Aug. 1827.

(After Compliments.)

I have had the pleasure to receive your letter of the 25th Mohurum, and have heard of your illness with great regret. I hope, however, that you will ere long recover, and that you may live to transmit your possessions to your own descendants.

With

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Letter from
the Governor to
the Punt Suchew,
28 Aug. 1827.

With regard, however, to the terms proposed to be annexed to the adoption, it must be observed, that although you and your heirs are to hold your jagheer on certain stipulated terms, yet that, on a total failure of heirs, it must revert to his Highness the Raja, and that if his Highness allows it to be continued, in such a case, by adoption or otherwise, his Highness is at liberty to attach what conditions he thinks expedient to the permission.

As to the terms, this Government has no reason to think that the Raja's demand will be unreasonable, and will recommend your case to his consideration; you, however, must recollect, that you voluntarily preferred the Raja's sovereignty, the decision must therefore rest with his Highness, the British Government not being able to interfere unless there be a breach of agreement.

For the rest, &c. &c. &c.

True copy.

(Signed) W. H. WATHEN,

Persian Secretary to Government.

True copy.

(Signed) P. LODWICK,

Resident.

Minute by the
Governor,
4 Oct. 1832.

(No. 3495.)—MINUTE BY THE RIGHT HONOURABLE THE
GOVERNOR,

(Subscribed to by the Board,)

Dated 4th October, 1832.

An attentive perusal of the treaty and of these papers satisfies me, that the Deputy Agent has taken a correct view of this case of jurisdiction; whatever instrument passed between Captain Grant and the Punt, could only cover his possessions actually within the Sattara Raja's territory, that officer being confined in all his acts to the kingdom given to the Raja; and the acquiescence of the British authorities in the Deccan would have been necessary to have given the Raja jurisdiction over districts situated beyond the limits of his territory.

(Signed) CLARE.

27th September, 1832.

(No. 3496.)—Resumed considerations of our proceedings in this department, dated 19th September, 1832.—Nos. 3209 to 12.

Ordered that the following letters be written :

Letter from
Mr. Secretary Bax,
4 Oct. 1832.

LETTER FROM MR. SECRETARY BAX TO THE AGENT FOR
SIRDARS IN THE DECCAN,

Dated 4th October, 1832.

Sir,—I am directed by the Right Honourable the Governor in Council to acknowledge the receipt of the Deputy Agent's letter, dated the 25th August last, submitting copy of a correspondence with the Resident at Sattara, regarding the case of Gopeeka Baee Joglekur *versus* Ameer Sing and Tanajee Seerke.

2. His Lordship in Council having attentively perused the treaty and the correspondence on the subject, is satisfied that the Deputy Agent has taken a correct view of this case of jurisdiction. Whatever instrument passed between Captain Grant and the Punt Suchew, could only cover his possessions actually within

within the Sattara Raja's territory, that officer being confined in all his acts to the kingdom given to the Raja, and the acquiescence of the British authorities in the Deccan would have been necessary to have given the Raja jurisdiction over districts situated beyond the limits of his territory.

SATTARA PAPERS.

Letter from
Mr. Secretary Bax
4 Oct. 1832.

3. I have the honour to transmit for your information, a copy of a letter from the Resident, dated the 19th ultimo, with its enclosure on this subject, and to inform you that a copy of this letter has been forwarded for the information of Lieutenant-Colonel Lodwick.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. Bax,

Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle,
4th October, 1832.

(No. 3497.)—LETTER FROM MR. SECRETARY BAX TO THE
RESIDENT AT SATTARA,

Dated 4th October, 1832.

Letter from
Mr. Secretary Bax
to the Resident at
Sattara,
4 Oct. 1832.

Sir,—I am directed by the Right Honourable the Governor in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, dated the 19th ultimo, with its enclosures in the case of Gopeeka Bacc Joglekur *versus* Ameer Sing and Tanajee Seerke, and to transmit for your information and guidance copy of my letter of this day's date to the Agent for Sirdars, which you will be pleased to communicate to his Highness the Raja.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. Bax,

Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle,
4th October, 1832.

EXTRACT BOMBAY POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

11th March, 1835.

(No. 545.)—EXTRACT MEMORANDUM BY MR. WARDEN, LATE
DEPUTY AGENT FOR SIRDARS IN THE DECCAN,

Dated 2nd February, 1835.

Extract Memorandum by Mr.
Warden,
2 Feb. 1835.

I see that the Raja on this occasion re-asserts his claim of sovereignty over the British jagheers. I had hoped that my letter to Government of the 25th August, 1832, and the decision of his Lordship in Council thereon, would have set this question at rest. I have discussed this point most fully in the 11th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, and 21st paragraphs of that letter, and the best proof, as it appears to me, that this interpretation is the true one is, that by the adoption of any other, we should destroy one of the fundamental principles on which Mr. Elphinstone settled the Deccan, *viz.* to establish a small sovereignty in the middle of the Deccan extending from the Neera and Bheema to the Krisna and Wurna, and from the western ghauts to the city of Pundurpoor. The practical result of the Raja's present pretensions would be the extension of the arm of his sovereignty not only into the heart of the zillas of Ahmednuggur and Kandeish, but even beyond the Deccan itself into the Southern Concan, where the Punt Suchew has landed property.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Letter from
C. Norris, Esq.
to the Resident at
Sattara,
9 March, 1835.

(No. 548.)—LETTER FROM CHARLES NORRIS, ESQ., CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT, TO THE RESIDENT AT SATTARA,

Dated 9th March, 1835.

Sir,—I am directed by the Right Honourable the Governor in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 18th October last, with its enclosures, on the subject of the resumption of the possessions of Shaik Mera Wacekur in Kandeish, and to signify to you that the case of the Wacekur has been referred to the Government of India, as the Government has not the power to continue any jagheers without its sanction.

2. His Lordship in Council farther instructs me to request that you will explain, in the most friendly terms, to his Highness the Raja of Sattara, that his pretensions to sovereignty in British territories, where land is held by his subjects, cannot be admitted.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) CHARLES NORRIS,
Chief Secretary.

Bombay Castle,
9th March, 1835.

True Extract.

(Signed) C. NORRIS,
Chief Secretary to Government.

LETTER FROM LIEUTENANT COLONEL LODWICK, RESIDENT AT SATTARA. TO C. NORRIS, ESQ., CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,

Dated 3rd July, 1835.

Sir,—I have had the honour of receiving your letter of April 25th, 1835, accompanying an extract from the Honourable Court of Directors' despatch of September 26, 1834, together with three letters from his Highness the Raja of Sattara, for the purpose of being returned.

2. In communicating the substance of the Honourable Court's letter to his Highness the Raja, as directed, I explained most fully the motives which had decided the return of his letters addressed to individuals in Europe, adding the assurance given by the Honourable Court, that his Highness might confidently rely upon his rights and interests always having the utmost consideration, at the same time leaving him under no restraint with respect to private correspondence.

3. The Raja having, about the period adverted to, paid a visit of ceremony to the Right Honourable the Governor on his arrival in the country, took the opportunity of a private interview to express his full sense of the Honourable Court's consideration, and stated the particular articles of the Treaty of 1819 on which there appeared to exist a difference of interpretation between the local British Government and himself.

4. It was then decided that the several cases in point should be submitted to the Right Honourable the Governor in Council, through the Resident, and eventually to the ultimate consideration of the Honourable the Court of Directors.

5. This arrangement could not fail of proving most satisfactory to his Highness, who, in adverting to the letter addressed to the Honourable Mr. Elphinstone being returned, took the opportunity of expressing his confidence in that enlightened statesman, who had framed the treaty which conferred his
sovercignty,

Letter from
the Resident at
Sattara, to the
Chief Secretary
to Government,
3 July, 1835.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Letter from the
Resident at Sattara
to the Chief Secretary to
Government,
3 July, 1835.

sovereignty, and who must therefore be most competent to explain its intentions. His Highness added, that should the Honourable Court be pleased to consult that gentleman, his opinion would be conclusive and satisfactory, however adverse to his own interests.

6. I proceed to give in detail the substance of his Highness's interpretation of the treaty, as explained in several interviews, and by numerous memorandums.

7. The Raja considers that the treaty of 1819 confers upon him and his heirs for ever the full sovereignty, subject only to the guarantee of the British Government, over the six Jagheerdars named in the schedule attached to the treaty. He considers that sovereignty, as securing the reversion of the whole estate, strictly considered surinjam, to the Sattara government, whether situated within or without the immediate boundary, on the event of lapse from default of heirs or adoption, and his question appears to be decided by paragraph twenty-two of the Honourable Court's letter of September 26th, 1834, which states that, "In default of heirs, by birth or adoption, the obligation of our guarantee ceases, and the jagheers must lapse to the Raja."

8. In the event of adoption on the part of Jagheerdars, the Raja claims nuzzerana for the whole jagheer; this was not disputed in the case of the Punt Suchew, in 1827, when it was clearly stated by Mr. Elphinstone, then Governor of Bombay, that no adoption could take place but by the permission of the Raja, as sovereign authority; the adoption was sanctioned, and the nuzzerana paid to the Raja of Sattara.

9. The Raja conceives that his rights have been infringed in the resumption of the jagheer of Shaik Mera Waeekur, in Candeish.

10. The schedule attached to the treaty of 1819, after enumerating the several pergunnas within the boundary made over to the Raja of Sattara, expressly names as part of the sovereignty the jagheer of Shaik Mera Waeekur as well as those of the other five Jagheerdars, and without making any reservation as to where such possessions may be situated.

11. This subject was brought to the consideration of the Right Honourable the Governor in Council, and referred to the Supreme Government, the decision of which is subject to the final determination of the Honourable Court of Directors.

12. His Highness the Raja considers, that if the jagheer is resumed, it must by the treaty be to his benefit, but he is most desirous that the jagheer should be continued to Shaik Khan Mahomed, son of Shaik Mera; the family, as shewn in the genealogical sketch attached to my report, is one of the oldest adherents of the Sattara state, and although the jagheer is not strictly hereditary, yet sunnuds have on every demise been granted from father to son, from the time of Shawoo Raja.

13. There remains another claim on the part of the Raja which is not provided for in the treaty, and the only support on which it rests, is a letter from the Honourable Mr. Elphinstone,* in which is the following sentence:—

"The modern jagheers granted by the Peishwa will in most cases fall to your Highness on the death of the present incumbents."

14. This evidently refers to small jagheers within the boundaries of the Sattara state, and it is to be regretted that the list of jagheers which were to revert to the Raja on the death of the possessors mentioned in Mr. Elphinstone's letter as having been given to his Highness by Captain Grant, should neither be in his possession nor among the records of this residency.

15. The jagheer village of Cowtalee, lately resumed by the British Government, is claimed by the Raja, as coming strictly within the meaning of
Mr. Elphin-

* Letter from the Honourable Mr. Elphinstone to his Highness the Raja, dated 25th January, 1827.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Letter from the
Resident at Sattara
to the Chief Secre-
tary to
Government,
3 July, 1835.

Mr. Elphinstone's letter above referred to, as it is within the limits of the Sattara state, and the annual revenue amounts to about Rs. 2,000.

16. There are many small jagheers of a similar description within the Raja's territory, and as this is the first instance of one of them having lapsed, the decision on this case naturally involves the fate of the others, as they may fall by the decease of present incumbents either to the British Government or to the Raja of Sattara.

17. Having lately submitted this subject* to the consideration of the Right Honourable the Governor in Council, I have but to observe, that in the event of his Highness's claim not being admitted by that authority, it would be highly gratifying to him to have a reference made upon the general question to the Honourable Court of Directors.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) P. LODWICK,
Resident, Sattara.

True copies.

(Signed) J. WILLOUGHBY,
Secretary to Government.

Letter from the
Resident at Sattara
to J. P. Willough-
by, Esq.
20 June, 1836.

LETTER FROM LIEUTENANT-COLONEL LODWICK, RESIDENT
AT SATTARA, TO J. P. WILLOUGHBY, ESQ., SECRETARY TO
GOVERNMENT,

Dated 20th June, 1836.

(Secret Department.)

Sir,—I have the honour to request you will bring to the notice of the Right Honourable the Governor in Council, that having reason from private intelligence to suppose that his Highness the Raja had, without communicating his intentions to the British Resident, either entered into engagements with, or adopted preliminary steps to that end with a person named Syud Meer (a Mussulman inhabitant of Bombay), to act as his accredited agent or Vakeel in the settlement of certain disputed points of a political nature, arising out of the several articles of his treaty with the British Government, and that it was his Highness's intention to send this Vakeel either to Calcutta or to England, I requested an interview with his Highness, which took place on the evening of the 16th, in presence of Appa Sahib Maharaj and Balla Sahib Senaputtee.

2. The detail of what passed I now submit to the consideration of Government, together with the translation of a memorandum since given in by the Raja.

3. Although his Highness has occasionally hinted at the probability of being eventually obliged to resort to this measure, I was not prepared for its immediate adoption; and especially after the assurance given by the Right Honourable the Governor during the late interview at N'her, that the several questions at issue should be referred to the consideration of the Honourable Court of Directors without further delay.

4. It appears, however, that a copy of the treaty, and every document relating to the claims of his Highness supposed to be founded upon that treaty, have been given to Syud Meer, who had an interview with the Raja; but so far as I can ascertain, he has not hitherto received any definite instructions or authority to act as agent for his Highness.

5. How far this conduct on the part of his Highness is in accordance with the fifth article of his treaty granted with the territory by the British Government, I am not prepared to give an opinion, but submit the case for consideration.

* Resident's Letter, dated 24th June, 1835.

tion. The motive for keeping me in ignorance of the transaction is evident ; for being bound to consult the Resident on all occasions, and to abide by his opinion, his Highness was well aware of the result of such a reference in the present case, and that the consequence of acting in decided opposition to the Resident's opinion might be deemed a violation of the second article of the treaty.

6. In extenuation of the Raja's disingenuous conduct in the case now submitted to Government, I may be allowed to observe, that his feelings have been, during four years, and particularly during the last year, in a state of increasing excitement, respecting what he considered infringement of the treaty, from time to time, on the part of the British Government ; and these feelings being restrained by the prospect of a reply from the Honourable Court, acquired additional force on ascertaining, during the late interview with the Right Honourable the Governor, that no reference had hitherto been made to the Court of Directors ; and from that moment he evidently resolved to appeal through an agent of his own ; and this, I believe, he hinted to the Right Honourable the Governor during the interview : he certainly has a full conviction of having done so.

7. I hope to be honoured with early instructions as to the line of conduct I am to adopt in consequence of the late breach of confidence on the part of his Highness—the first instance within my knowledge, as his intercourse with me has been carried on in perfect good faith, and firm reliance on the friendship of the British Government.

I have, &c.

(Signed) P. LODWICK,

Resident at Sattara.

SUBSTANCE OF A CONVERSATION WHICH TOOK PLACE AT AN INTERVIEW WITH H. H. THE RAJA OF SATTARA,

On the Evening of the 16th instant, at the Palace.

Present, his Highness, the British Resident, Appa Sahib Maharaj, and Balla Sahib Senaputtee.

Substance of a
Conversation with
the Raja.

The conversation was introduced by the Resident's noticing the reports in circulation, and his having been informed, that his Highness had engaged a person, an inhabitant of Bombay, by name Syud Meer, or Meer Sahib, as his Vakeel, to be employed in obtaining his supposed rights over the estates of the Jagheerdars ; that this had been effected secretly, without any communication with the British Government.

The Resident put the question to his Highness, as to the general truth or falsehood of this intelligence.

In reply, his Highness commenced by declaring that the subject to which this conversation referred had been a source of unhappiness to him for the past four years ; that the late Governor had promised on his visit of ceremony to refer the case ; that the present Governor had given an assurance last year to the same effect, but on his Highness, at the late private interview in May last, requesting to be informed when a reply from the Court to representations forwarded last year by the Resident, might be expected, he was told, that no representation of the case had yet been made to the Honourable Court of Directors. His Highness became much agitated, and declared that his food was hateful to him, and that he had no happiness, &c. On bringing his Highness back to the simple question, he acknowledged that he had sent for Syud Meer, and that he had entrusted him with copies of the treaty with the British Government, and other documents relating thereto. His Highness denied having gone beyond this, and declared that he had informed Syud Meer that nothing should be done in the affair until the approaching Dussorah.

The

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Letter from the
Resident at Sattara
to J. P. Willough-
by, Esq.
20 June, 1836.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Substance of a
Conversation with
the Raja.

The Resident replied by pointing out the departure on the part of his Highness from that confidence in the British Government, and its accredited agent, which had hitherto directed all his acts; and further, observed upon the assurance which the Right Honourable the Governor had given to his Highness at Malcolm Peyt, that he would immediately address the Home Government on the subject at issue.

The Resident pointed out the friendly feeling towards him and his Government, which both the Bombay Government and the Honourable Court had invariably expressed and acted upon, and ended by alluding to the 5th article of the treaty, by which his Highness for himself, "his heirs and successors," engages to forbear from all intercourse or correspondence with all persons of "whatever description who are not by the above articles rendered subject to his Highness's authority."

At the close of the interview, his Highness became more calm, and agreed to give in a statement of what had taken place in regard to Syud Meer, in order to the Resident's framing a report for the information of his Government.

A true statement.

(Signed) P. LODWICK,
Resident at Sattara.

Yad from the
Raja to the
Resident,
16 June, 1836.

TRANSLATION OF A YAD, No. 7, FROM H. H. THE RAJA OF SATTARA TO THE RESIDENT,

Dated 16th June, 1836.

(After Compliments.)

Although some cases took place formerly consequent upon the several letters and yads received up to the time of Governor Elphinstone, and on the force of the treaty with the British Government, the (vahevat) management had been carried on here according to that treaty. In the time of Governor Lord Clare, Mr. Warden, then in the Agent's cutcherry at Poona, raised a new doubt on the mis-information of his Kamdars, and infringed the rights of this Sircar; his representations upon this case have been confirmed by the British Government without any regard to their former writings, and communicated to Colonel Lodwick, the Resident, which he made known to this Sircar according to instructions received.*

The letters addressed from hence to Mr. Elphinstone, Colonel Robertson, and Captain Grant, were perused by the Honourable the Court of Directors, who in returning them sent their decision to the British Government regarding the Jagheerdars dependent on this government; yet this decision was not carried into effect, nor does it appear that a further reference is made to the Honourable the Court of Directors.

Governor Lord Clare having returned to England, Sir Robert Grant arrived in the country as Governor, to whom all the circumstances were explained last year, as well as this year, yet no arrangement whatever has been made to this day; but I was told a reference would be made to Europe.

The Governor in Council has not as yet made the said reference, neither is it made known here that the existing differences will be settled in accordance to former writings and letters, and within what period the answer from Europe would be received, until which time the (vahevat) management should be continued by us as heretofore.

On the occasion of a dispute which took place between the King's Supreme Court and Governor Sir John Malcolm, the Governor in Council had this settled by sending Colonel Barnwell immediately to Europe. It is now four years

* The cases referred to in this document were detailed in the Resident's report to Government addressed to the Chief Secretary. under date July 3rd, 1835.

years since the present case has been referred, but yet has it not been hitherto decided.

Any person, great or poor, wishing to submit his grievances to the British Government at Bombay, does not previously make his intention known to this Sircar.

This measure is not in violation of good faith; but the case is referred from this to the decision of the British Government.

In consequence of a difference of construction put upon original documents by the British Government, and which appear to be in opposition to the rights of this Sircar, and to prevent the chance of future misconstruction, this Government proposes to lay its claims before the Government at Calcutta and the Honourable the Court of Directors, with all the circumstances connected therewith; in the event of its not being decided or finally settled by them, to bring the same to the notice of Parliament, and his Majesty, in Europe: those articles that can be settled, it is well; and those that cannot, to get them settled by such reference.

Syud Meer is the person selected for this duty; he has been made acquainted with all the papers, &c., connected with the disputed rights and interests of this Sircar, but he is desired not to leave the country until he receives further orders from this Government to that effect.

At an interview which took place with the Resident, Colonel Lodwick, he asked, why this was not made known to him, and what objection there was on our part to consult with him on the subject; to which the reply given was, that you (the Resident) had personally explained all the circumstances in our presence to Governor Sir Robert Grant, and that there was no objection on our part to make you acquainted with the intended plan, which was proposed in order to avoid all future misconceptions. The differences arising on the part of the British Government here, which infringe the rights of this Sircar, and it is invariably stated that such disputes could never be settled in this country without a reference to Europe, it is therefore intended to submit the case direct to Europe for final settlement, and this yad is sent for your information.

A True Translation :

(Signed) P. LODWICK,

Resident at Sattara.

True copy :

H. WILLOUGHBY,

Secretary to Government.

MINUTE BY THE RIGHT HONOURABLE THE GOVERNOR,
SUBSCRIBED TO BY THE BOARD,

Dated the 27th April, 1837.

Minute by the
Governor,
27 April, 1837.

1. In the resolutions adopted by the Board on the 12th December last, we noticed, as one of the palliating circumstances of the Raja of Sattara's conduct, "his fancying neglect on the part of this Government in not promptly deciding "on a question which had arisen regarding his Highness's rights over his Jag-herdars."

2. I shall now proceed to submit some remarks on this question, premising, with a candid acknowledgment, that, although I am happy to state that no substantial injustice has been suffered by the Raja in consequence of the delay of Government, in answering his appeal on the subject, it would have been highly desirable that such delay should not have occurred. Pressure of business, however, in the first instance, and perhaps my inexperience in the management

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute by the
Governor,
27 April, 1837.

management of it, prevented my giving to the subject that attention which its importance at that time undoubtedly demanded; and on the subsequent detection of the Raja's culpable conduct, I conceived that its importance merged in the more urgent considerations belonging to the occasion. I am still in a measure of this opinion; yet the expediency of deciding the question cannot be denied.

3. The question alluded to relates to the extent of the Raja's claims over the Jagheerdars subject to his authority. In a few words, his Highness claims the rights of sovereignty over all the possessions of these chiefs, whether situated within or without the limits of his own kingdom; involving, be it observed, this consequence, that, in the event of any of these Jagheerdars dying without heirs, the lands of such persons, even though situated in the heart of the British possessions, would lapse to the Raja, and become a part of the immediate territory of Sattara.

4. His Highness founds this claim principally on the following passage in the schedule of the territory and revenue ceded to him by the first article of the treaty, concluded at Sattara on the 25th of September, 1819: "Together with the possessions of the Raja of Akulkote, the Punt Suchew, the Prithee Nidhee, and the Jagheer of the Dufflays in the pergunna of Jhutt."

5. Now, although the above passage is certainly wanting in precision, I am satisfied that the construction which his Highness has given to it is quite untenable, and altogether opposed to the views of the British Government in establishing the Sattara state, and to the declared intentions of the able men who framed the treaty of Sattara.

6. With the view of arriving at a just conclusion on this point, I have endeavoured to ascertain from Mr. Elphinstone's correspondence with the Governor General of India, what were the views and intentions of that eminent personage in the formation of the Sattara state. In the Mahratta proclamation, promulgated by this office, and bearing date the 11th February, 1818, these views are thus announced:—"The Raja of Sattara, who is now a prisoner in Bajee Row's hands, will be released and placed at the head of an independent sovereignty, of such an extent as may maintain the Raja and his family in comfort and dignity. With this view, the fort of Sattara has been taken, the Raja's flag has been set up in it, and his former ministers have been called into employment; whatever country is assigned to the Raja will be administered by him, and he will be bound to establish a system of justice and order. The rest of the country will be kept by the Honourable Company."

7. I would ask, whether from this passage any other conclusion can be drawn than that a *definite* portion of the conquests made by us from the Peishwa was intended to be assigned to the Raja, and that all that was not so assigned was to remain, not only in the first instance, but permanently, in the hands of the Company?

8. The peculiar circumstances under which the Sattara state was established ought not to be lost sight of. The measure was one of the purest and most enlightened liberality. The whole of the Peishwa's dominions had become ours, by the events of one of the most just wars that have been conducted in India. In the words of Mr. Elphinstone, "He (the Raja) was released from a prison, and was placed at the head of a government, obtained by no effort of his own, but which was the spontaneous result of the liberality of the British Government." From these circumstances I must contend, that with full powers to give or withhold what they pleased, the framers of the Sattara treaty never could have intended to conclude an arrangement which could not fail ultimately to extend the Raja's sovereignty and government over isolated parts of our own districts in the Deccan and Candeish, and even in the Southern Concan.

9. We are not, however, left solely to rely on this inference, just and forcible as I consider it. I annex to this minute extracts from Mr. Elphinstone's letter to the Governor General, of date the 18th June, 1818, defining the

the limits which he proposed to assign to the Sattara state. In this it is explicitly recommended "to assign to the Raja the territory bounded by the Neera on the north, the Wurna and the Kishna on the south, the ghauts on the west, and the Nizam's frontier on the east, with the exception of the jagheers of the Putwurdhuns, and such others as the Governor General might think proper to exclude." It is impossible to misunderstand what were Mr. Elphinstone's intentions as conveyed in this passage. A compact territory is marked out for the Raja, with natural boundaries, evidently with the object of obviating the evil of intermixture of jurisdictions, which would be created to an immense extent were we to admit the Raja's present pretensions.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute by the
Governor,
27 April, 1837.

10. The tenor of Mr. Elphinstone's orders to Captain Grant, dated the 8th April, 1818, support the same view of the case, but more especially the following paragraph: "He (the Raja) can be allowed to hold all between the most extended of the limits above noticed, that already belongs to the Government, or may hereafter be resumed; and the Jagheerdars who are allowed to remain may hold their lands of him, with the exception of the Putwurdhuns, whom it might be inconvenient to connect with the Raja, as the greater part of their lands lie on the southern bank of the Kishna."

11. The instructions of the Governor General to Mr. Elphinstone, dated 26th September, 1818, would, even alone, be to my mind decisive of the question at issue. "His Lordship in Council will approve of the extension of his territory to the widest limits you have proposed, and to place under his authority those of the Jagheerdars *whose possessions fall within those general limits*, with the exception of the Putwurdhuns." It is here also worthy of remark that, in the 28th para. of the letter from which the above quotation is made, certain lands which had formerly belonged to Rastiah and Gockla are granted to the Raja, because, among other reasons, they were situated "between the Neera and the Kishna," and if retained by the British Government, would "be separated from our other territories and be intermixed with the possessions of the Raja or those of his Jagheerdars." I consider the analogy here to be very striking.

12. In fact, however, the question at issue has already been decided against the Raja, not only by Lord Clare's Government, but likewise by the Government of India, and by the Home Authorities. I refer to the case of Shaik Mera Wacekur, reported on in a despatch of Lord Clare's Government to the Court of Directors, dated the 17th June, 1835. In their reply, recently received, dated the 8th June, 1836, the Court confirm the views of the Bombay Government, but comply with its recommendation, that in consequence of the peculiar circumstances of the case, the jagheer in question, which for the most part is situated in Candeish, should be continued to Shaik Mera's son, for his own life, "the British Government taking, in consideration of that favour, such an amount of nuzzurana as the circumstances of the case might justify."

13. I cannot here refrain from quoting the 8th para. of the letter to the Honourable Court, reporting, as above-mentioned, on the Wacekur's case, not only because it contains the views of Lord Clare's Government on the general question, but also because it very forcibly points out the evils which would result from our admitting the Raja's pretensions to extend his jurisdiction into the heart of our own districts.

14. "The Raja of Sattara has advanced claims to sovereignty over these British jagheers. By acknowledging this right, we should destroy one of the fundamental principles on which Mr. Elphinstone settled the Deccan, namely, to establish a small sovereignty in the middle of the Deccan, extending from the Neera and the Bheema, to the Kishna and Wurna rivers, and from the western ghauts to the city of Punderpoor. The practical result of the Raja's pretensions would be the extension of the arm of his sovereignty, not only into the heart of the zillas of Ahmednuggur, and
"Candeish,

SATTARA
PAPERS.Minute by the
Governor,
27 April, 1837.

"Candeish, but even beyond the Deccan itself into the Southern Concan, "where the Punt Suchew has landed property."

15. In his letter of the 3rd July, 1835, Colonel Lodwick argues in favour of the Raja's claim; but there is nothing, I think, in that letter, which is not fully answered by the observations above made. A copy of that letter should, however, be sent to the Government of India with this Minute; it seems to me to be quite clear, that if it had been intended to include in the treaty the possessions of the Jagheerdars beyond the Raja's limits, those possessions would have been expressly mentioned in the schedule annexed to the treaty. •

16. In his 7th para. Colonel Lodwick states, that the question has been decided in favour of the Raja by the following passage of a letter from the Court of Directors, dated the 26th September, 1834: "In default of heirs, by "birth or adoption, the obligation of our guarantee ceases, and the jagheers "must lapse to the Raja." I have no doubt, however, that the Resident erroneously interprets the intentions of the Court, as far as relates to the possessions of these Jagheerdars in our territory; and I should have thought so, even if the recent decision of the Court in the Waackur's case did not clearly indicate, that, in their opinion, such possessions in default of heirs appertain to the British Government.

17. I must further remark, that the opinion of the Honourable Court was elicited by Colonel Robertson's report of the 31st December, 1831, from which I have annexed an extract (paras. 17 and 48) as an appendix to the present minute. This extract contains some very useful information regarding the Sattara Jagheerdars, and although Colonel Robertson does not express this in terms, it is, I think, to be inferred that he was favourable to the Raja's pretensions. Lord Clare's Government differed in opinion with the Resident, conceiving that he claimed for the Raja a more extensive authority over the Jagheerdars than was warranted by the treaty, and Colonel Lodwick was so advised on the 15th March, 1832.

18. It is here, I think, very important to observe, that in the first instance, the discussion of the question was between the Resident and Government, the Raja taking no part in it. Ultimately, however, and it may be presumed, encouraged by a knowledge of the opinions entertained by the British Representatives, the Raja set forth his present pretensions, and addressed letters to Mr. Elphinstone, Colonel Robertson, and Captain Grant Duff, appealing to them to interpret the treaty in his favour.

19. These letters were forwarded to the Court of Directors, together with Colonel Robertson's despatch of the 31st December, 1831, on the 16th April, 1833, and were returned by the Court to this Government in their letter of the 24th September, 1834, when the Court explained their views regarding the extent of the Raja's rights over the Jagheerdars "*in the Sattara territory.*" It is, however, I think, quite evident, that the Honourable Court did not enter into the merits of the real question at issue. This Government has all along fully recognized the Raja's sovereignty over the possessions of the Jagheerdars named in the treaty *within his territory*, but it disputes his sovereignty over their possessions *without his territory*. To this wide distinction the Court's letter makes no allusion. As above stated, however, in the 14th para. they have in a particular instance given a decision against the Raja, and I am not, I think, wrong in considering that decision as confirming generally my views of the inadmissibility of the Raja's claims.

20. If I thought otherwise, I should certainly feel disposed to take advantage of the Raja's recent misconduct, to declare that whatever may have been the intentions of those who framed the treaty, his right to extend his sovereignty into the heart of our dominions cannot now be admitted. To speak more plainly, I would declare that his Highness has forfeited whatever right he may possess over the possessions of those Jagheerdars situated within our territory, as a punishment for the breach of friendship and good faith of which he has been guilty. It was to this consideration I alluded, when I observed

at

at the beginning of this paper, that the recent misconduct of the Raja had diminished the importance of discussing his present claim. Denying, however, as I do, his right of sovereignty over such possessions, I should consider it unnecessary to have recourse to recent occurrences in order to avoid the difficulty and embarrassment which would be created, by an admission of his claim: nor can I deny, that since those occurrences the question has regained somewhat of its importance, in consequence of the demise, without heirs, of the Punt Suchew.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute by the
Governor,
27 April, 1837.

21. With regard to the question alluded to in the thirteenth and following paragraphs of Col. Lodwick's letter, that officer should, I think, be informed that Government cannot admit the claim of the Raja to succeed to the jagheers alluded to, on the vague extract which he makes from a letter of Mr. Elphinstone's; but that if he is able to produce the list which, for reasons not stated, he supposes to have been made of these jagheers, or any other evidence in support of the Raja's claim of succession, Government will not fail to give its best attention to the information so transmitted.

22. The question of the jagheer village of Cowtalee being a distinct and isolated one, I shall reserve my sentiments on it for a separate minute.

23. I must now request the attention of my colleagues to Col. Lodwick's letter of the 20th June, 1836, reporting that the Raja of Sattara was preparing an embassy for England, to urge on the Home Authorities his claims to the rights disputed. This letter was yet under my consideration, when, about a fortnight after it reached my hands, I received private intimation of his Highness's attempts on the fidelity of the Native officers of the 23rd regiment. The minor question of the propriety of a direct communication between the Raja and the Home Authorities was absorbed in those of greater, though unascertained, extent, which now arose, affecting all our relations with Sattara, and (for all that appeared) the very existence of that principality. Recurring now, however, to the former question, I am not prepared to state that his Highness is not at liberty to make an immediate appeal to the authorities in England; but I feel quite confident that, when what has transpired at Sattara has been communicated to those authorities, his embassy, should it reach England, will be rejected. I am not certain whether the embassy has actually proceeded; and the Resident at Sattara should be requested to report whether he has any further information on the subject. In the meantime, a copy of his letter of the 20th June should be sent to the Government of India.

24. With reference to the sixth paragraph of this letter, I deem it right to record, that when I met the Raja on the hills in May last, the question regarding his Highness's rights over his Jagheerdars was discussed at a private interview between us. The Raja contended, with some warmth, for the validity of his claims, and expressed disappointment at the delay which had occurred in deciding the question. At that time, although I had not given to the subject that careful examination which I have since bestowed on it, I had sufficiently considered it to be of opinion that the claims of his Highness stood on very questionable ground. I did not feel it necessary, however, nor expedient to declare myself strongly on a question which both parties understood to be still under reference to higher authority.

25. I must here affirm, however, that I positively informed the Raja that the question had thus been referred home; I also promised that the Court should again be addressed on the subject and their early adjudication solicited. It is necessary that I should make this averment, because, from what misconception I know not, the Raja in his conversation with the Resident detailed by the latter in his letter of the 20th June stated, that I had told him that no representation of the case had been made to the Court of Directors; and this statement Colonel Lodwick himself seems in that letter to adopt. Colonel Lodwick, however, has since acknowledged that the statement was erroneous; and his admission, as well as the distinct recollection of the Political Secretary, who was present, and the principal spokesman on the part of Government, bear out my assertion above made to the contrary.

SATTARA
PAPERS.Minute by the
Governor,
27 April, 1837.

26. In mentioning to Colonel Lodwick at the time, that the claim had been referred home, I recollect intimating that it had not been accompanied with any discussion of its merits on the part of the Bombay Government; my impression and belief were, however, that we had referred home Colonel Lodwick's own letter of 3rd July, 1835. I afterwards found that, by that letter having been accidentally mislaid, it had not been so referred, but I also found that, in the case already mentioned in this minute, of Shaik Khan Mahomed, son of Shaik Mera Wacckur, the claim of the Raja, on which the merits of that case entirely turned, had been distinctly referred to the Honourable Court. Thus my assurance to the Raja of the desired reference having been made, which was given only in general terms, was substantially verified; and I have only to regret that I did not add, which I might truly have done, that the reference had taken place ten months previous to our interview, and that an answer might very shortly be expected.

27. With relation to this interview with the Raja, I must advert also to another point; Colonel Lodwick, in the letter of the 20th June, states his belief, that the Raja then hinted to me his intention of appealing to the Honourable Court, adding that the Raja "certainly has a full conviction of his having done so." In a conversation which lasted, I should think about two hours, and was principally maintained by the Raja himself, who speaks a bad sort of Hindoostanee, but with incredible velocity, I cannot answer that some obscure hint, to the effect mentioned by Colonel Lodwick, may not have escaped from his Highness unnoticed; but I can positively say, that I have not the slightest recollection of it, nor has the Political Secretary; and I conceive it impossible that so important a communication, had it been made intelligible, would have been overlooked, or forgotten by either.

28. With reference to the following extracts from Colonel Lodwick's evidence before the Commission, I would propose that we suggest to the Government of India, that the Raja should be required to dismiss from his service and expel from his territory the persons alluded to, a requisition fully authorized, I conceive, by the existing treaty with his Highness.

29. "I attribute the change in his Highness's conduct to his having attached himself to two persons in particular, Bulwunt Row Chitnavees and Abba Parisnees, who are generally reputed to be corrupt. They are in his full confidence and they abuse it; and it had been long the general opinion at Sattara that they would be the cause of his ruin. These persons were, during Captain Grant's time, the one suspected, and the other proved guilty of receiving bribes. Bulwunt Row was pardoned at the strong intercession of his Highness, and Abba Parisnees was expelled the Raja's territory, and did not return until 1828—29. I am further decidedly of opinion that they are men of very bad character, and unfit to act as counsellors to his Highness." Further inquiry may establish the guilt of these men, and severer measures may be called for against them, but their dismissal and expulsion should, at all events, be required.

30. In the last paragraph of their Report, the Commission bear the following favourable testimony to the conduct and character of the two Native officers and havildar of the 23rd Regiment Native Infantry, who announced the attempts made by the Raja on their loyalty.

31. "To conclude, we have the highest satisfaction in stating, that the two Native officers and the havildar appear to us to be free from taint of any kind; and that, with the exception of the laxity of morals apparent in the conduct of the first soobahdar, in going through the form of binding himself to the Brahmin by an oath which he had no intention to keep, their conduct is deserving of the highest praise. Immediately their fidelity was assailed, they communicated, like loyal and faithful soldiers, with their superiors; and, although towards the close of the affair, they may be charged with over-zeal, still at every stage of the proceeding they acted under the authority and directions of their officers; we feel it, therefore, to be a most pleasing duty to recommend them, but more particularly the soobahdar
Sewgoolam

“ Sewgoolam Sing, to the favourable notice of Government, for such honour-
 “ able distinction and rewards as their conduct and services may appear to
 “ merit.”

SATTARA
 PAPERS.

Minute by the
 Governor,
 27 April, 1827.

32. I quite concur with the Commission in the above remarks, and I think it will be good policy on the part of Government to testify, in the most public manner, the good opinion which we entertain of these deserving soldiers. If the Government of India are pleased to approve of the arrangement of placing Parghur, and the two other Native forts in the Southern Mahratta country, under the charge of Native officers, I think the soobahdars, Sewgoolam Sing and Gooljar Missur, might be nominated to two of the commands which will be thus created. This will occasion promotion in the corps generally, which is also desirable; and his Excellency the Commander-in-Chief might be requested to promote the havildar, should he be reported qualified to hold a commission.

33. In case, however, the arrangement respecting the forts is not carried into effect, no other mode occurs to me of rewarding the officers than by appointing them supernumerary soobahdar majors, and the havildar a supernumerary jemidar, with the pay of those grades, and to be absorbed as vacancies occur. On this point I request to be favoured with the opinion of his Excellency the Commander-in-Chief.

34. In either case, I would propose that each of these men should receive an honorary dress from my hands on the first convenient opportunity, of the values following—

Soobahdar Sewgoolam Sing, one valued	-	-	Rs.	300
Soobahdar Gooljar Missur do.	-	-	-	200
Havildar Chunder Sing do.	-	-	-	100

35. I may here mention, that having learned from Major Wilson, the officer commanding the 23rd Regiment, that the soobahdars were in doubt how their conduct had been viewed by Government, and that the misrepresentations which appeared in the Gazette newspaper had created bad impressions in their minds, I caused them to be introduced to me at Parell, and assured them that their conduct had afforded Government the highest satisfaction, and that the due acknowledgment of it was under consideration.

36. I think an extract from the Commission's proceedings, relating to the conduct of Captain Hand, of the Grenadiers, in maintaining a correspondence with one of the chief officers of the Sattara state, should be sent to his Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, with the request of Government that he will seriously reprimand that officer for his highly irregular and indiscreet conduct. Captain Scott, of the 23rd Regiment, likewise acted with great indiscretion in writing to his friends at Bombay what had happened at Sattara.

37. In conclusion, I have only to propose, that the Sattara Commission should be informed that Government are in the highest degree satisfied with the zeal, judgment, ability, and activity, which they evinced in the prosecution of the highly important and equally delicate investigation entrusted to their charge. I confess that, in my opinion, only two out of the three Commissioners are entitled to so high an acknowledgment; but I do not know that we can well make distinctions in our meed of approbation, and, for all practical purposes, the acts of the majority are the acts of the Commission.

27th April, 1837.

(Signed) R. GRANT.

A true copy.

J. P. WILLOUGHBY,

Secretary to Government.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Extract from
Mr. Elphinstone's
Instructions,
8 April, 1818.

EXTRACT FROM MR. ELPHINSTONE'S INSTRUCTIONS TO
CAPTAIN GRANT,

Dated 8th April, 1818.

The limits which I intend to propose to the consideration of his Excellency the Most Noble the Governor General for the Raja's territory, are the river Neera on the north, the Kishna and Wurna on the south, the Peishwa's frontier on the east, and the ghauts on the west. The ghauts themselves, and the forts which command them, will probably be annexed to the Southern Concan, and the eastern frontier will probably be improved and defined, by arrangements with the government of his Highness the Nizam. I have guarded against disappointment on this last head, by acquainting the Raja that his country would only extend to Punderpoor. I have likewise apprized the Raja that all jagheer lands will be excepted from the proposed grant. The extent to which this last declaration is acted on will, however, depend on circumstances. If the Raja's conduct or our own policy should make his Excellency the Governor General desirous of circumscribing his authority, the whole jagheer of the Prithee Nidhee, resumed by Bajee Row, may be restored to him to be held of the British Government, and the jagheers, now held by Gokla, Rastia Jaun Row Naik Nimbalkur, and others within the limits in question, may either be left as jagheers, or resumed by the British Government, without the Raja's being entitled to claim any part of them : this would leave the Raja no more than 6 or 7 lacs of revenue. If, as is more probable, it should be the wish of the Most Noble the Governor General to increase the Raja's consequence, he can be allowed to hold all between the most extended of the limits above noticed that already belongs directly to the Government, or may hereafter be resumed, and the Jagheerdars who are allowed to remain may hold their lands of him, with the exception of the Putwurdhuns, whom it might be inconvenient to connect with the Raja, as the greater part of their lands lie on the southern bank of the Kishna, and whose inclinations we are moreover bound to consult before we place them under any government but our own.

Extract Letter from
Resident at Poona
to the
Governor General,
18 June, 1818.

EXTRACT (paras. 6 to 9) OF A LETTER FROM THE RESIDENT
AT POONA TO THE RIGHT HONOURABLE THE GOVERNOR
GENERAL,

Dated 18th June, 1818.

6. The first demand on this revenue is a provision for the Raja of Sattara : Your Excellency's instructions left me the choice of giving him a Jagheer or a small sovereignty, and I was inclined to adopt the latter plan for various reasons. At the time when I had to decide, the Mahrattas shewed no disposition whatever to quit the Peishwa's standard, and it appeared not improbable that the dread of the complete extinction of their national independence, and still more, that of the entire loss of their means of subsistence, from the want of a government likely to employ them, would induce them to adhere to Bajee Row with an obstinacy that could never have been produced by affection for his person or interest in his cause. It therefore seemed expedient to remove those grounds of alarm by the establishment of a separate government. Your Excellency will have observed from Brigadier General Munro's letter the opinion of that experienced officer, that a state like that of Mysore should be formed for the Raja ; and although I did not think myself at liberty to act on this plan to its full extent, I was deeply impressed with the same arguments that had occurred to General Munro on the importance of leaving for part of the Peishwa's subjects a government which could afford them service in their own way. Some part of the revenue must necessarily have been sacrificed to the maintenance of these classes, and by adding a portion

a portion of the revenue so sacrificed to that designed for the support of the Raja, I expected to keep many in employment, and more in hopes, that would otherwise have remained disaffected, and ready to join in every scheme for disturbing the government or laying waste the country.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Extract Letter from
Resident at Poona
to the
Governor General,
18 June, 1818.

7. For these reasons, I thought it would be desirable to assign to the Raja the territory bounded by the Neera on the north, the Wurna and Kishna on the south, the ghauts on the west, and the Nizam's frontier on the east, with the exception of the jagheers of the Putwurdhuns, and such others as your Excellency may think proper to exclude. I found it necessary to give the Raja an outline of the establishment I meant to propose for him, that I might put bounds to his extravagant expectations on the one hand, and prevent disappointment and disgust on the other; but by the mode of my communication, I retained for your Excellency the power of circumscribing the grant within moderate limits, if you thought it politic; and of altering the grounds of it entirely, if the Raja's conduct should render him unworthy of your liberality. By withholding all the lands that were in jagheer at the breaking out of the war, your Excellency would reduce the Raja's revenue to thirteen lacs of rupees, which might be farther lessened by requiring him to pay for a regiment of infantry to protect his country: and by granting him the lands of Jagheerdars forfeited since that period, and placing under him the jagheers within his limits (with the exception of those of the Putwurdhuns), you would make his direct revenue upwards of 18,00,000, and that held of him by dependent chiefs about 4,00,000 additional. This is on a supposition that his eastern boundary was to be the Bheema, but a further addition might be made by giving him Solapoor, and other places south of the line of the Neera, but beyond the Nizam's frontier. In this would also be included the jagheer of the Raja of Akulkote; and, as the connection would be agreeable to both parties, this arrangement would perhaps be politic: that regarding Solapoor is more doubtful.

8. To conclude the subject of the Raja's limits, I beg to observe that his conduct has been perfectly satisfactory, and that the object of establishing his government would probably be best effected by fixing his territory on a liberal scale. With respect to the mode of his government, it must long be under the immediate control of a British agent. The Raja is young and totally inexperienced, and the people about him are those who shared his misfortunes, and are as ignorant as himself without being as intelligent or as well disposed. The government ought, however, to be emancipated as soon as circumstances will admit of it, and to be placed on the same footing of independence as our other allies. The Raja is desirous to have a treaty concluded with him, but there is no urgency in the case, and I shall therefore await your Excellency's instructions regarding it. It will indeed be of advantage to delay the conclusion of it until experience shall have shewn the terms fit to be imposed. Whenever a treaty is concluded, the Raja's dignity should be scrupulously preserved, while his total separation from all the former dependents of his nominal state should be explicitly declared, as one of the grand advantages of the deposition of the Peishwa is, that it dissolves the Mahratta confederacy by destroying the common point of attraction. An article may be required to compel the Raja to keep up, for a time at least, the proportion of troops which his revenue can bear.

9. Some provision may be necessary to secure the Jagheerdars who are under him from being worse off than they were under the Peishwa; but if they should voluntarily prefer his government to that of the British, they would have no claim to this protection, and it probably would be for our interest to withhold it. The Punt Suchew is entitled to particular consideration, as he was one of the first who left the Peishwa, on which account I promised him his whole jagheer, except his claims on the Nizam's country, which form a considerable part of it. He may be allowed his choice, to be put under the British Government or the Raja's. Shaik Mera of Wye is likewise entitled to the same consideration for his early submission. His lands lie on the Company's share, but he resides at Wye, and is an old adherent of the Raja, who ought therefore to be required to give him an indemnity. The amount is small.

**SATTARA
PAPERS.**

Extract Letter from
the Chief Secretary
to the Hon.
Mr. Elphinstone,
26 Sept. 1818.

**EXTRACT (Paras. 9 and 28) FROM A LETTER FROM THE CHIEF
SECRETARY TO THE SUPREME GOVERNMENT TO THE HON.
MR. ELPHINSTONE,**

Dated 26th September, 1818.

9th. The Governor General has already signified to you his entire assent to the force of those considerations which induced you to extend the original objects of the establishment of the Raja of Sattara in an independent sovereignty, and the consequent enlargement of the territory to be conferred on that prince. The limits of the territory to be thus appropriated, as described in your instructions to Captain Grant, of the 8th of April, and in the despatch now acknowledged, are perfectly approved. The testimony now borne by you to the good conduct of the Raja since the formation of his connection with the British Government, naturally confirms this view of the question, and will induce his Lordship in Council to approve of the extension of his territory to the widest limits you have proposed, and to place under his authority those of the Jagheerdars, whose possessions fall within those general limits, with the exception of the Putwurdhuns. The particular case of Solapoor will perhaps require to be separately considered, and must depend, in a good measure, on the interchanges of territory to be effected with the Nizam, to which reference will be made in a subsequent part of this despatch. It will be proper to make some provision for the security of these Jagheerdars, and your attention is very probably directed to that object. In concluding the final arrangements with the Raja, to which these remarks and the 52nd and following paras. of my despatch of the 14th July refer, you will keep this matter in view.

28th. The annexation to our territory of the lands of Rastia and Gokla between the Neera and the Kishna, though it would increase our direct revenue, would proportionably circumscribe that of the Raja of Sattara, whom it is a great object to maintain in dignity and ease. These lands would, moreover, be separated from our other territories, and intermixed with the possessions of the Raja, or those of his Jagheerdars, or of ours; and though this is a minor objection, and would not operate against the adoption of the plan, were it otherwise expedient, it adds force to other objections.

True Extract :

J. WILLOUGHBY,

Secretary to Government.

Extract Letter
from Col.
Robertson,
31 Dec. 1831.

**EXTRACT (paras. 17th to 48th) OF A LETTER FROM COLONEL
ROBERTSON, RESIDENT AT SATTARA,**

Dated 31st December, 1831.

17. Of the Prithce Nidhee, the first in rank of the Raja's Jagheerdars, I have nothing to remark. He gives, I believe, every satisfaction to his Highness, who it has been decided is to succeed to his possessions in the event of his dying without heirs.

18. The Dufflay jagheer, which is managed by his Highness on the principles sanctioned by Government, is now fast clearing itself of its incumbrances, and the chieftain who at first considered his Highness's interference a misfortune is the loudest in acknowledging the manifold advantages of which, to him, it has been productive. The Chief, in concert with his Highness's Agent, conducts all the affairs of the jagheer, and on the expiration of all the engagements made by his Highness, his Agent will retire and make over the territory, freed of debt, to its owner.

19. The Punt Suchew's affairs are in a state of great disorder, owing to the mismanagement of his mother and agents during the first year of his accession,

sion, when, not only his youth, but his inexperience enabled these persons to promote their own advantages at his expense. The disturbed state of the Ramoossee population also greatly contributed to his incumbrances. He has been obliged to maintain additional establishments to repress and punish his own subjects, as well as to guard against the aggressions of Omya, who seemed to have selected the Punt as a chieftain on whom, under the cover of old and long obsolete claims, he might impose a considerable annual impost. The claims of Omya were long a subject of correspondence with Government, who gave them its countenance apparently more on the grounds of expediency than of acknowledged right; but they never were submitted to, or even in any way admitted by the Punt. He now owes not less than two to two and half lacs of rupees of debts contracted since his succession in 1827. He has little energy of character, and I do not foresee much chance of his retrieving his affairs by his own exertions or arrangements; amongst others, the Raja of Sattara has considerable claims against the Punt, but at my suggestion his Highness has given him a period of two years to make arrangements for their liquidation; I doubt, however, whether he will succeed. He will get aid from no monied man, except at a ruinous price. I believe he himself is of opinion, that permitting the Raja to arrange his affairs, by undertaking, on his part, the management of his country for a few years, would be the wisest measure he could resort to; but those who benefit by his difficulties will of course oppose such an arrangement, while they can, by any sacrifices, however great, prevent it. In my opinion, such an arrangement only can save the Punt from utter ruin. It requires the influence of the Raja to check deep-rooted abuses, and to set aside dishonest and influential managers. It requires too his credit to give value to any adjustments of demands that may be made, and to save further enormous sacrifices for temporary relief. The Raja will not be willing to undertake such a task till imposed on him by the necessity of securing his own rights; but as this is sure to happen, I think the sooner it does so, the better for the permanent advantage of the Punt.

20. The Nimbalkur jagheer is under his Highness's management; and the chieftain Beejaba continues to withhold his concurrence to the same. The attachment of this jagheer was forced on his Highness, not only by the contumacy of the chief, who owed the jagheer entirely to the interest his Highness took in his behalf, but also by the large demands which his Highness had against it, not only for nuzzurana on investiture, but for arrears of pay to the contingent. For these demands, at my request, his Highness took the Jagheerdar's personal security; but when the instalments became due, he not only did not provide for their discharge, but also contumaciously neglected every call made on him concerning them. He wishes the jagheer to be restored; but such a measure, even if he could satisfy all demands, would be ruinous to his own interest, for he could not obtain the funds to meet the demands against him, except at a rate of recompence to monied men, which could only be provided by long and losing mortgages to them of a large portion of his jagheer; but even on these conditions, it seems to me doubtful whether he could raise funds, for he does not regard his word, or even his bond; and no one would engage in his affairs but under the guarantee of his Highness. In 1827, at my instance, his Highness, in order to save the expense of a banker's security to the Jagheerdar, accepted his personal bond; and I did not then hesitate to state, that should his Highness's demands not be liquidated with regularity, the failure would afford him a just plea to attach the jagheer till they were discharged. An arrangement was concluded on this basis, and in fixing the instalments, reference was had to the Jagheerdar's means of paying them from his revenues as they became due, while a period of two years, without interest, was assigned in which to discharge the whole; and, as already remarked, it was not till after he not only neglected to make any payment on account of these instalments, but even to reply to the call made on him, and after he had, in other respects, acted with contumacy to his Highness, that the management of his estate was assumed. His Highness's arrangements with this jagheer are made on the same principles as those of the Dufflay estate, and are calculated in a few years to clear off all incumbrances.

cumbrances, both those of his Highness, and also of private individuals. Assignments of villages are made, which are in a given time to be restored by the holders, even if their realizations should fall short of their demands.

21. These assignments are made on fair principles. It is one of Bajeeba's complaints, however, that his Highness has admitted a few private claims that ought not to have been listened to; but the instances in which this is alleged are very trifling, and the fault, if there be any, is that of Bajeeba himself; who, though repeatedly invited to attend during the settlements, did not even send an agent to be present at them, to protect his property against any unjust demands; notwithstanding this, his Highness has repeatedly intimated, that if, in other respects, Bajeeba will do what is incumbent on him, in regard to adducing proof of his assertions, he will again submit such disputed items to arbitration; but this Bajeeba still refuses, apparently, only that he may not lose such a ground for complaint. Bajeeba has lately petitioned the Right Honourable the Governor in Council; I do not see any thing that can be done for him unless he makes an acknowledgment to his Highness, with promises to avoid a repetition of his contumacy, and joins with his Highness's agents in the administration of the affairs of his estate, the arrangements made in regard to which, ought to be strictly upheld under all circumstances, as the only means of retrieving it from the difficulties which, if they were departed from, would instantly beset it. His Highness's opinion, too, should always be taken, and greatly respected in all that relates to these estates. He has a great present interest in them, setting aside all that may arise from contingencies. His present interest consists in the regular maintenance of the quotas of horse that they furnish for his service, or in the regular discharge of certain annual dues, which they cannot do when they are involved in debt. The Dufflay Jagheer-dar's contingent had literally ceased to be of use, and was not paid even sufficient for their support; and that of the Fulton estate deserted a duty of importance that was assigned to it, owing to want of pay just before the estate was taken under direct management.

22. The only other Jagheer-dar of importance is the chieftain of Akulkote. That chieftain's affairs have, under the late orders of the Honourable Board, been entirely made over to his Highness the Raja; and I have no doubt that the result will be as satisfactory to the Right Honourable the Governor in Council as it will be advantageous to the estate. His Highness shewed me, before leaving Sattara, a list of reductions in establishment, which would diminish the expense Rs. 25,000 a-year; a sum which will fully meet the expectations of the Honourable Board, and greatly relieve the resources of the young chief. To make this reduction, however, many must suffer, but none will do so who have not contributed most actively to bring affairs in their present state—which is such, that it leaves no alternative to his Highness but that to which he has resorted. The discontent arising from this may manifest itself in slight local opposition, and in complaints to Government, but a steady adherence to what is essential will soon render all quiet. Lieut. Jameson has privately reported, that the resources of this year promise better than was expected. Till they are definitively fixed, a reply to the Government call of the 27th October, to report on the revenues and expenses of the jagheer, cannot be satisfactorily given. On the return of his Highness to Sattara, my successor will, however, have it in his power to furnish the requisite information.

23. The eight men who were allowed to leave Poona are now at Sattara; his Highness was disposed to employ them at Akulkote, but this was no sooner known than they began to quarrel among themselves as to precedence and superiority, and it was evident that great risk was likely to be incurred from trusting them with any power. They have in consequence been directed to remain at Sattara for the present. Their intrigues while here are not likely to prove so baneful as when at Poona; for residing under his Highness's authority at his own capital, people will not be inclined to give that credence to their assertions that they did while they remained apparently in a state of opposition to his Government at Poona. By degrees their jealousies will completely

pletely disunite them, and they will, as opportunities offer, be allowed to return to, and accept of service at Akulkote.

24. The Raja entered on the duties, when wholly confided to him, with zeal and a sincere desire to meet the expectation of Government; but his efforts will require every support, and every reliance may be placed on his prudence. No good was effected, but much ill, by dividing authority and influence; and this, I respectfully beg to recommend, should be carefully avoided for the future; and that those jealousies of his Highness which the followers of the young boy chief will doubtless infuse into his mind, and which will not fail to take deep root, and prove in the sequel the source of much evil, may be guarded against; I have no hesitation in saying, that the more he can enjoy the advantages of his Highness's society and personal example, and the more intimately he knows the motives of his conduct, the better. No measure is calculated to produce worse consequences than that which, in a manner, draws a wide line of separation (except for a few days annually of a ceremonious intercourse) between his Highness and the boy. It appears to stamp with the concurrence of the British Government all the libels and misrepresentations against his Highness which the interested instil into his mind. It gives them a plea for saying, that the Honourable Board are of their opinion: and thus the breach is widened by the very means adopted to prevent its being so. It is not to the point that such conclusions drawn from such premises are not just. This is not known to a child; and as he grows in years he will grow strong in antipathy and hatred to his Prince; and what may be the result of such impressions it may not be difficult to foretell, considering how reckless of consequences Natives often are, when actuated by powerful passions; I would therefore suggest that, for the boy's sake, and for the sake of the peace of the country, all restrictions be taken off his residing at Sattara, if the Raja deem it advisable. Government have every security for the boy's safety in the high responsibility of his Highness, and every guarantee for his being properly trained for his station in society, in the pride which his Highness takes in the creditable discharge of every incumbent duty, as well as in the desire which I know he feels to eradicate those prejudices already imbibed against him by the minor, and to substitute in their place, sentiments of confidence, attachment, and gratitude. Besides this, Lieut. Jameson would accompany the youth to Sattara, for that officer cannot be so usefully employed anywhere as with the young chief. His presence at first would be necessary for the assurance of the boy, who now fears and dislikes coming to Sattara; and in the sequel it would contribute greatly to keep the discontented aloof from his society. Of Lieut. Jameson's zeal and conduct at Akulkote, I cannot speak too highly. He was placed at first in a very unpleasant predicament, in the midst of all the contending passions of the place, and especially with reference to the rival adherents of the Raja and the chief; at a time when the feelings of all were strongly excited and exasperated. Notwithstanding this, he soon acquired the confidence of all, and became, from the implicit trust they reposed in his justice and impartiality, a referee in all cases to the advantage of all parties. Now the reductions of his Highness, exciting, as they must, much discontent, impose upon Lieut. Jameson the necessity of constant vigilance. Though his Highness has assumed the entire management of the estate, Lieut. Jameson will continue to afford him every aid in his power, and indeed it is on his aid and countenance that his Highness mainly relies for the success of his endeavours to do good, as these will afford the best proof to all the interested and discontented that they have the support and approbation of the Honourable Board.

25. There will soon be a call for an extra expense for the marriages of the minor, and also of his brother and sister. This cannot be avoided; and unless the resources of the jagheer improve more rapidly than has been calculated upon, I see no way of meeting it but by the sale of some of the ornaments recovered from the insurgents. I have on former occasions reported, that there are a number, the workmanship of which has cost so little, that they may be reckoned rather as bullion than as ornaments, and indeed many of them, though in the form of ornaments, are too heavy for use. Of these there are sufficient to defray the marriage expenses, and they can be replaced at a charge of one

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Extract Letter
from Col.
Robertson,
31 Dec. 1831.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Extract Letter
from Col.
Robertson,
31 Dec. 1831.

or two per cent. for manufacture, as savings can be made. They could not therefore be better appropriated for a time than in the discharge of an expense which is so indispensable; and that this may be as much reduced in amount as possible, I would suggest that the marriages of all the three should be celebrated at the same time. His Highness has thought of this subject, and has spoken to me concerning it, and no doubt he will keep it in view; but as a point in which the respectability of his wards is so involved, his attention might be particularly pointed to it by Government.

26. In the letter quoted in the margin,* the Right Honourable the Governor in Council expresses doubts as to whether the Raja should be viewed in the light of the sovereign or the chieftain of Akulkote. As much often depends on the meaning attached to words, I would take the liberty, respectfully, to offer a few observations illustrative of the relations of his Highness with his Jagheerdars.

27. It must at the outset be admitted that they are only Jagheerdars, and this term of itself implies that they hold of a superior. This was never once disputed by any of those chieftains, except the Jagheerdar of Akulkote, who wished his possession to be considered as *enam*; but his pretensions on account of which, and of the absence of all foundation for making them, may be seen in Captain Grant's letter of the 1st September, 1820, to the Commissioner in the Deccan, were not admitted.

28. If Jagheerdars therefore, the question next to be considered is, on whom are they dependent? The reply to this seems to be, that they came by conquest under the British dominions, which constituted the state of Sattara, and among other territories, assigned to it certain Jagheerdars. The preamble to the treaty states:—"Whereas the British Government having determined, in consideration of the antiquity of the house of his Highness the Raja of Sattara, to invest him with a *sovereignty* sufficient for the maintenance of his family in comfort and dignity, the following articles have been agreed to between the said Government and his said Highness."

29. The first article of the said treaty states: "The British Government agrees to cede in *perpetual sovereignty* to the Raja of Sattara, his heirs and successors, the districts specified in the annexed schedule;" and the said schedule, among other territories so ceded in *perpetual sovereignty*, expressly specifies, "The possessions of the Raja of Akulkote, the Punt Suchew, the Punt Prithee Nidhee, the jagheer of the Dufflay's in the pergunna of Jhut, the jagheer of Jan Row Naik Nimbalkur, in the pergunna of Fulton, and the jagheer of Shaik Mera Waackur."

30. It is true that the seventh article of the treaty states: "The possessions of the Jagheerdars within his Highness's territory are to be under the guarantee of the British Government, which, on the other hand, engages to secure their performing the service which they owe to his Highness according to established custom;" but such a guarantee, though it may in some degree detract from the perfect nature of the sovereignty, does not materially diminish its powers. In all other respects, except in having the power to do, probably a wrong to his dependents, the sovereign power of the Raja is left entire; and in return for this partial disability, the British Government binds itself that it shall see those services which are usual, rendered to his Highness, and the rendering of those services is an acknowledgment of sovereignty; for these are the only marks of dependence which any sovereign when he creates an extensive jagheer tenure ever exacts from his feudatory.

31. The treaty I have quoted speaks for itself, it uses the term *perpetual sovereignty*, and this is only limited by the power to do wrong being withheld without the consent of the Company; besides which, we have in many instances the sentiments of the authority by whom the treaty was made, explanatory of the relations of the Jagheerdars to his Highness, which seems to leave no doubt

doubt that that distinguished statesman considered his Highness as their sovereign.

32. On the 28th January, 1824, the Commissioner of the Deccan communicating the sentiments of the Governor in Council, the Honourable Mr. Elphinstone, on a question of succession to the Dufflay jagheer, states as follows:—
 “As the treaty gives the British Government no further right of interference with the jagheers held of the Raja, than is sufficient to secure the enjoyment to the rightful possessions, it does not appear that we are entitled to regulate the disposal of such lands in cases where *they have lawfully lapsed to the Raja*.

“By a separate article of the treaty, however, the British Government is entitled to advise the Raja in all affairs of his government; and it seems a proper occasion for the exercise of such a right, when the object is to preserve one of the ancient families of the Mahratta States.”

“It does not seem equally requisite that we should prescribe to the Raja the precise mode in which *his country* is to be conferred; and if he is particularly desirous of granting the jagheer, *now* become *his own*, to one member of the Dufflay family more than to another, it appears to the Governor in Council to be desirable that he should be indulged. You will accordingly be pleased to intimate this decision to the Raja, leaving it to his discretion to dispose of the jagheer either to Ram Row or to Yeshwunt Row, commonly called Dajec Dufflay, as he may think most proper.”

33. The language of this is clear and precise; it speaks of the jagheer as held of the Raja, and even of its having lapsed to his Highness (as the Dufflay jagheer then appeared to have done); and though, under our guarantee, and our right to give advice, the case in question seemed a fitting occasion for doing so, yet it was thought best not to prescribe the precise mode in which *his country* was to be conferred; but to leave his Highness to dispose of what had become *his own* to any member of the family he chose. This decision of Government not only acknowledges the Sovereignty of his Highness, but also that though the jagheers are held under our guarantee, it is not thought advisable to interfere in the case of a succession when no one possesses any claims on the score of a preferable right; again, on the 8th September, 1824, the Governor in Council states, “With regard to the grant of the Jhut jagheer to Ram Row, the Governor in Council has no observations to offer. Having already declared *that the Raja was fully entitled to retain the jagheer*, and that if he was willing to bestow it on a member of the former family, the British Government would not interfere with the mode in which his bounty was conferred.” Thus clearly admitting one of his Highness’s most valuable privileges as a sovereign, that of appropriating, as he sees fit, the jagheers of families who have no legal heirs according to Hindoo law, in which case our guarantee ceases as a matter of course.

34. In the case of the Fulton succession, too, when there were heirs, and when a dispute ensued as to the successor, the decision was left entirely to the Raja, it being held that the British Government had done enough under its guarantee, in seeing that his Highness’s decision did not attempt to encroach on the estate of the family, in which case the Governor in Council assured him, that he might depend on the acquiescence of our Government in his awards. Thus leaving it to his Highness as sovereign to decide on the rights of the contending parties; and also confining the operation, even in this case of our guarantee, to the security of the property to such claimant as his Highness might consider best entitled to the accession.

35. Again, in the case of the Punt Suchew; the late Punt before his death, wishing to adopt an heir, complained to the Governor in Council regarding the terms which the Raja wished to annex to his permission to do so; and, in reply, was apprized, “With regard, however, to the terms proposed to be annexed to the adoption, it must be observed, that although you and your heirs are to hold your jagheer on certain stipulated terms, yet, that on a total failure of heirs, it must revert to his Highness; and that if his Highness

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Extract Letter
from Col.
Robertson,
31 Dec. 1831.

allows

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Extract Letter
from Col.
Robertson,
31 Dec. 1831.

" allows it to be continued, in such case, by adoption or otherwise, his Highness is at liberty to attach what conditions he thinks expedient to the permission. As to the terms, this Government has no reason to think that the Raja's demand will be unreasonable; and will recommend your case to his consideration. You, however, must recollect that you voluntarily preferred the Raja's *sovereignty*; the decision must, therefore, rest with his Highness, the British Government not being able to interfere unless *there be a breach of engagement*."

The terms of this communication, also, clearly admit the sovereignty of his Highness over this Jagheerdar. Under date the 28th August, 1827, the Suchew is spoken of as having been rather a dependent than a subject of the Peishwa. This was because he was one of the original great ministers of the Sattara Raja; and before the usurpation of authority by the Peishwas, was on a level with them, and was always treated in consequence with great deference by them. This, however, did not raise them to the same station in reference to the Rajas, for even while he was in confinement they received their investiture from him, and not from the Peishwa, and always considered him as their sovereign.

36. I will further take the liberty of adducing an instance in which Mr. Elphinstone offers his opinion on the relative situation of the Akulkote chief and the Raja. This was on the occasion of the late chief manifesting a disposition to treat his Highness with slight, if not to oppose him, during a visit to Nassick in 1826. In regard to these disputes, Mr. Elphinstone remarks,* that his (the Akulkote chief's) representation, through his Vakeel to the Commissioner in the Deccan, had been received, and that a report had also been received, through the Resident at Sattara, regarding the dispute which occurred near Nassick. That the whole of the transactions have occasioned much regret to the Governor in Council; that the Raja's ancestors have, from the first, been servants of the Raja of Sattara; and that at the late settlement, when it was left to the choice of Futtia Sing Raja to become dependent on the British Government, or to remain under the Raja of Sattara, he preferred the service in which his ancestors had acquired distinction. That it is therefore inconsistent with Mallajee Raja's own good sense, and with the *loyalty* of his family, to enter into disputes with the Raja of Sattara; that he ought, on the contrary, to conciliate his Highness's good-will in all respects, and to consider his prosperity as depending on the favour of *his sovereign*. That in the late affair he appears by no means to have remembered the respect due to the Raja of Sattara, and that he had every reason to be satisfied with the forbearance shewn towards him; that the Governor in Council hopes that the Akulkotekur will henceforward pay more attention to conciliating his Highness's regard; and that, while he serves him with fidelity, he is sure of the Company's protection; but if he neglects the duty he owes *his own prince*, it will be impossible for the British Government to interfere in his behalf. That the Raja of Sattara is disposed to forget the past, and the Governor in Council hopes to hear henceforward that all disagreements are forgotten; and that the attachment of the Raja of Akulkote and favour of the Raja of Sattara are as conspicuous as they have ever been in former days." Nothing could more clearly shew the light in which, in the opinion of the authority who formed the treaty, his Highness and the Akulkotekur stand to each other than this despatch; and all these extracts taken together will, I have no doubt, shew that his Highness is to be considered as *sovereign* of these Jagheerdars. The subject indeed might be set at rest by the question, If he is not the sovereign, who is? They are subordinate to some sovereign; the British Government shew that this is its opinion by transferring them by a treaty to his Highness; and if by that treaty his Highness is not their sovereign, it would be difficult to decide what is his relation in regard to them.

37. As a subject which may in future occupy the attention of the Right Honourable

* Vide accompaniment to Mr. Chaplin's Letter, dated 3rd May, 1826.

Honourable the Governor in Council, I may also advert to the question of adoption by the Jagheerdars.

38. The treaty with his Highness extends the British guarantee to the Jagheerdars, but is silent as to adoption, as also is the agreement with the Jagheerdars.

39. Mr. Elphinstone's letter to his Highness of the 25th January, 1827, contains the most precise exposition of his views on the subject of succession, and the maintenance of the old families. The mode of succession by adoption is, however, never once directly mentioned in that letter; and a consideration not only of what it does state, but also of what Mr. Elphinstone has on another occasion stated and authorized, will shew that adoption was never considered by him to have been conceded as a *right* to the Jagheerdars.

40. In this letter Mr. Elphinstone states, "The great jagheers were certainly "meant to be hereditary, and nothing is said in the treaty about their reverting "to the state." Now the first point need not be disputed; as to the second, it may as well be said, that nothing is said in the treaty about their not reverting to the state, as what is alleged. The one observation seems as reasonable in the premises as the other.

41. Neither does the reference in the same letter to the list of resumable jagheers, as given to his Highness by Captain Grant, remedy the uncertainty which exists, owing to the silence of the treaty on the subject of adoption, for the list in question relates entirely to jagheers resumable on the death of the possessors; in which class no one will urge that the great jagheers should be included.

42. Again, Mr. Elphinstone says, "It was determined to keep up the old "families, and that it was not intended they should suffer by being placed "under the Raja." Now, certainly, admitting that a family is to enjoy an estate hereditarily, is recognizing the determination of keeping up that family, and acting up to that determination. To allow adoption as a right, when a family becomes extinct, is to do more than such determination implies: so, Mr. Elphinstone immediately after adds, "If a family becomes extinct, so "that no claimant remains, it must lapse to Government." A claimant, it is evident, is one who, under our guarantee, can claim as an heir of his own right, and independent of any permission, will, or pleasure, of the prince; and it is a recognized principle, that no adoption gives a right to succession to any public office or jagheer without the confirmation of the sovereign. If this has once been granted, the adopted occupies the place of such a claimant as is contemplated by Mr. Elphinstone, but not otherwise. The words that conclude the sentence, "but it is by no means desirable that extinction should take "place," may, taken by themselves, appear at least ambiguous, if not even favourable to the right of adoption without limitation, but connected with the foregoing, and especially with Mr. Elphinstone's own explicit declarations, and even acts, they cannot be so interpreted.

43. In a private communication, dated in August, 1827 (I have mislaid the original letter, though I possess a note of its contents, on which the date is not mentioned), Mr. Elphinstone, on the subject of adoption, stated, 1st, In all cases when there are relations or descendants of the Mool Pooriesh,* adoption should be *allowed*. 2nd, When there are no such descendants, it may be a subject of consideration whether adoption *should be permitted*. These propositions form a commentary by which to judge how far Mr. Elphinstone thought it advisable that the extinction of any family should be prevented.

44. Again, just before the death of the late Suchew, that chieftain wrote to Mr. Elphinstone, complaining that his Highness wished to attach conditions to his permission to adopt, when Mr. Elphinstone replied to him on the terms already quoted in the 35th paragraph of this despatch.

45. On

* The original founder of the family: from *mool*, a root; and *pooriesh*, a man.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Extract Letter
from Col.
Robertson,
31 Dec. 1831.

45. On the same date, also, the Chief Secretary to Government, in replying to a reference as to the Suchew's succession, recommends that *his Highness should allow* the Suchew to adopt, but nowhere refers to this as a right which he could claim; while it also sanctions, on the grounds that the person to be adopted *had himself no claim* to succeed, the annexation of some conditions of service to his succession.

46. In the same letter, too, Mr. Chief Secretary Newnham conveys the instructions of the Honourable the Governor in Council in regard to the Prithee Nidhee, one of the five guaranteed Jagheerdars, to the effect that, he *having no personal claims on the British Government*, in the event of his death without any relative *entitled* to succeed him (and the Weshalghur Prithee Nidhee, the only one who has any colour of claim, as the subject of a foreign state, is declared ineligible), it will *rest with the Raja* to make such arrangements regarding his jagheer as he may think equitable.

47. These cases afford the best possible explanation of how far Mr. Elphinstone considered it desirable that the extinction of the old families should be provided against, and they, and the sentiments conveyed in his private letter above referred to, and which, by his desire, were communicated as his private opinion to the Raja, shew that adoption is not as a right to be extended beyond those who may at any rate have claims as descendants of the original founder of the family.

48. I have adverted to this subject and to that of the sovereignty of his Highness at this length, because circumstances may arise that may lead to discussions on these topics, and because I conceive the means of ready reference to the opinions of Mr. Elphinstone would in such case be deemed very desirable. He gave the present rights and condition to the state of Sattara, and his sentiments explanatory of these points must always be held in the highest respect.

True Extract :

J. WILLOUGHBY,

Secretary to Government.

EXTRACT BOMBAY POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

8th July, 1835.

Letter from
Lt. Col. Lodwick,
to the Secretary to
Government,
24 June, 1835.

(No. 1725.)—LETTER FROM LIEUTENANT COLONEL LODWICK,
RESIDENT AT SATTARA, TO THE SECRETARY TO GOVERN-
MENT,

Dated 24th June, 1835.

1. Sir,—At the desire of his Highness the Raja of Sattara, I have the honour to request you will submit to the consideration of the Right Honourable the Governor in Council, the accompanying claim to the lapsed jagheer of Cowtallee.

2. On receiving information that the jagheer in question has been resumed and taken possession of by the British authority at Dharwar, I addressed the Political Agent in order to ascertain the fact, which was established by his reply.

3. The claim laid to this, and other small jagheers, is founded on a letter from the Honourable Mr. Elphinstone, and the following paragraph in particular :—

“ The

“ The modern jagheers granted by the Peishwa will, in most cases, fall to your Highness on the death of the present incumbents.”

SATTARA
PAPERS.

4. The present case is one of great importance in establishing the claim of the Raja to these small jagheers, as it is the first instance of one having fallen by the death of its incumbent.

Letter from
Lt. Col. Lodwick,
to the Secretary to
Government,
24 June, 1831.

5. The village of Cowtallee is within the limits of the Sattara boundaries, as defined in the treaty; the jagheer is modern, having been conferred by the Peishwa; and his Highness appears to have good grounds for considering it as coming strictly within the definition given by Mr. Elphinstone, of such Jagheers as would lapse to the Sattara State on the death of their incumbents.

I have, &c.,

(Signed)

P. LODWICK,

Resident at Sattara.

Sattara,
24th June, 1835.

TRANSLATION OF A MEMORANDUM (No. 8) FROM HIS HIGHNESS THE RAJA TO THE RESIDENT AT SATTARA,

Memorandum
from the Raja,
15 June, 1835.

Dated 15th June, 1835.

(After compliments.)

Having had a conversation with the Right Honourable the Governor respecting the village of Majay Cowtallee, and as the Resident forwarded a yad from this Government to Dharwar relative to this village, the reply from Dharwar was communicated here in a yad, No. 70, the purport of which was, that the village of Majay Cowtallee, Pergunna Mungulurerra, had been resumed by the British Government, it is proper to state, that as this Government received a letter from Mr. Elphinstone, while Governor, which specifies that the modern jagheers granted by the Peishwa will, in most cases, fall to the Maharaj Sircar on the death of the present incumbents: this decision was, no doubt, given by Mr. Elphinstone, upon long experience and mature deliberation. It is remarked in the said reply, that this Government never made a representation regarding these Jagheerdars, and that this village is said to have been situated in the Purgunna of Putwurdhun, the Jagheerdar of the British Government; it therefore becomes requisite to add, that no agreements whatever were formerly made as to the Peishwa's Jagheerdars, nor had this Government occasion, from there being no lapse of their respective jagheers, to found a claim, but agreeably to the article in the tahananama (treaty); and with reference to the map of this territory, it would appear that the village in question is situated within the boundaries of this state, and it must therefore lapse to this Government accordingly.

It is further remarked in the said reply, that had this village been under the Sattara sovereignty, no orders should have been sent by the Commissioners in the Deccan direct to Dharwar, to continue it (the village) to Severam Pandorens Khasgeewalla. To this it appears, that these orders might have been issued by the Commissioner previous to the date of Mr. Elphinstone's letter regarding these Jagheerdars, and this Government could not interfere until the village had lapsed.

It would seem that the Political Agent at Dharwar is not acquainted with the correspondence on this subject; it is very desirable that the Right Honourable the Governor in Council should, in conformity with the documents above referred to, and the conversation that has taken place with him and the Resident Sahib, make over the said village to this Government.

True translation :

(Signed)

P. LODWICK,

Resident at Sattara.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Letter from Mr.
Chief Secretary
Norris,
6 July, 1835.

(No. 1726.)—LETTER FROM MR. CHIEF SECRETARY NORRIS
TO THE POLITICAL AGENT AT DHARWAR,

Dated 6th July, 1835.

Sir,—I am directed by the Right Honourable the Governor in Council to transmit to you copy of a letter from the Resident at Sattara, dated the 24th ultimo, with its enclosure from his Highness the Raja of Sattara, preferring a claim to the lapsed jagheer of Cowtallee, and to request that you will submit to Government a full report on the subject of this jagheer, and the Raja's claim thereto.

I am, &c.

(Signed) C. NORRIS,
Chief Secretary.

Bombay Castle,
6th July, 1835.

EXTRACT BOMBAY POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

24th May, 1837.

Letter from
J. A. Dunlop, Esq.
to Mr. Secretary
Willoughby,
5 Dec. 1835.

(No. 2210.)—LETTER FROM J. A. DUNLOP, ESQ., ACTING POLI-
TICAL AGENT AT DHARWAR, TO MR. SECRETARY WIL-
LOUGHBY,

Dated 5th December, 1835.

Sir,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of Mr. Chief Secretary Norris's letter of the 6th July, calling for a full report on the subject of the jagheer of Cowtallee, and on claims preferred on the occasion of its resumption by the Sattara Raja, copies of which accompanied that communication.

2. I beg to refer to my letter to Mr. Townshend, of the 18th ultimo, in answer to petitions from the representatives of the late holder of this village, for all the information I could obtain respecting their rights.

3. In answer to the claim of the Raja, as urged by the Resident, founded on an expression in a letter from Mr. Elphinstone, "that modern jagheers granted "by the Peishwa will, in most cases, fall to your Highness on the death of the "present incumbents," it would seem only reasonable to conclude that this referred to his Highness's own Jagheerdars, and that it could not, without an express stipulation, be extended to ours.

4. The argument founded on the wording of an article in the treaty, that the village is within the Sattara boundaries, I cannot judge of, because I have no copy; but this village was included in a Putwurdhun's jagheer, and belongs to the pergunna of Mungalveda. Had it been intended to be subject to the superiority, and this contingent claim of the Sattara Raja, it would doubtless have been placed under him from the first.

5. I shall only add, that abundance of jagheers granted by the Peishwa have lapsed, in other places, without any claim having been preferred by the Sattara Raja; and his arguments in favour of his present claim, founded on this being the first example, seem therefore somewhat mistaken; and the plea that there are no arguments or stipulations against a new claim to rights, seems a very insufficient mode of proving it.

(Signed) J. A. DUNLOP,
Acting Political Agent.

Dharwar,
5th December, 1835.

(No. 2211)—LETTER FROM MR. SECRETARY WILLOUGHBY TO
THE RESIDENT AT SATTARA,

Dated 20th May, 1837.

Sir,—With reference to your letter of the 24th June, 1835, submitting the translation of a memorandum from his Highness the Raja of Sattara, preferring a claim to the lapsed jagheer of Cowntalee, I am directed by the Right Honourable the Governor in Council to transmit to you copy of a letter from the Acting Political Agent in the Southern Mahratta country, dated the 5th December, 1835, on the subject; and to acquaint you, that as the jagheer in question was included in a Putwurdhun jagheer, over the whole of which his Highness the Raja's title to sovereignty was denied when the treaty was framed, Government consider his Highness's claim to succeed to the village of Cowntalee altogether untenable.

2. I am instructed on this occasion to explain that the cause of the delay in answering your letter of the 24th June, originated in the necessity of referring to the Political Agent in the Southern Mahratta country, relative to the village in question.

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY,

Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle,
20th May, 1837.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Letter from
Mr. Secretary
Willoughby to
the Resident at
Sattara,
20 May, 1837.

LETTERS FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA TO THE GOVERNMENT OF BOMBAY.

Letter from W. H.
Macnaghten, Esq.
to W. H. Wathen,
Esq.
2 Oct. 1837.

LETTER FROM W. H. MACNAGHTEN, ESQ., SECRETARY TO THE
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, TO W. H. WATHEN, ESQ., CHIEF
SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF BOMBAY,

Dated 2nd October, 1837.

(Political Department.)

1. Sir,—I am desired by the Right Honourable the Governor General of India in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your several letters, dated the 30th August, and 1st and 4th ultimo, together with their respective enclosures, relative to intrigues at Sattara.

2. Copies of the letters to your address, dated the 7th, 21st, and 31st of July, referred to in the Acting Resident's letter of the 12th ultimo, have not been furnished to the Governor General in Council; but judging from the evidence which accompanied your communications now acknowledged, his Lordship in Council has no hesitation in stating that his worst apprehensions, as expressed in the concluding paragraph of my letter to your address, dated the 7th August, as to the "danger of becoming involved in an indefinite and "inconclusive inquiry," have every appearance of being fully realized.

3. The Governor General in Council had mainly relied on the result of the investigation which might be instituted, consequent on the alleged petition of the Dewan's mother, for a solution of any doubts which might be entertained as to the accuracy of the conclusions formed by the Commission on the occasion of the previous inquiry, and for something more of intelligible precision in its results. By the Report of the Commission, the Raja of Sattara was left subject to the imputation of every shade of guilt, from that of lending himself to the machinations of the evil-disposed, under the influence of discontent and partial insanity, and irritated by supposed ill usage, up to that of an extensive treason, in a great degree matured, and having for its object the entire overthrow of the British power in India. Much of the evidence by which even this imperfect result was obtained was uncertain and unsatisfactory; and whilst his Lordship in Council was willing to place confidence in the judgment of the Commission, he felt that the case was incomplete, and that to justify the Government in any strong and final measure further information was absolutely necessary. But from all the papers which have since come before him, he has seen increased reason to doubt whether any certain grounds of action can possibly be obtained amidst the intrigues, the personal animosities, and the exaggerated rumours of all descriptions, by which the investigation into the petty and obscure details of the supposed treasonable proceedings of the Raja has been surrounded and embarrassed.

4. The evidence relative to the alleged intercourse of the Raja of Sattara with the ex-Raja of Nagpore, as detailed in the documents which accompanied your letter of the 1st ultimo, is, in the opinion of his Lordship in Council, in the highest degree suspicious. The alleged communication between Yellojee Bappoo and the ex-Raja of Nagpore is admitted to have originated in some domestic concern. The evidence of that individual and his servant are full of discrepancies; and it was only after repeated cross-examinations that they were induced to implicate the Raja of Sattara as having any knowledge of the communications. It is remarkable that Yellojee is represented as having been the
person

person through whose means the intercourse between the Raja of Sattara and the ex-Raja of Nagpore was first set on foot; and yet the two witnesses, Abba Mareek and his servant Wittoo, deposed, that the latter was sent to Joudpore to ask whether Yellojee Bappoo sent people there.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Letter from W. H.
Macnaghten, Esq.
to W. H. Wathen,
Esq.
2 Oct. 1837.

5. The Governor General in Council sees little or nothing in the evidence recorded in the documents which accompanied your letter of the 4th ultimo to inculpate the Raja. There is no direct evidence against his Highness of any kind, as regards the supposed intrigue with the Hubshee, save that the Hubshee's Vakeel, who was a relative of Bulwunt Row Chitnavces, was introduced to his Highness; that the Raja read a letter and afterwards threw it into the fire, and that he received a present of cocoa-nuts from Bulwunt Row Chitnavces. Against the last-named individual no criminality is established. There is nothing of a treasonable nature in the paper found concealed in the doll, and if there was, evidence has been given to prove that he (the Chitnavces) was not the author of its contents. His Lordship in Council, of course, attaches no weight to the unsupported rumours of intrigues in all directions, alluded to by the witnesses whose depositions accompanied your letter of the 4th ultimo. His Lordship in Council observes, that the expressions contained in the 6th paragraph of your letter to the Acting Resident, that the witness Wittul Row Parisnees saw himself poshak (clothes), "and a sword sent to the Raja from the Hubshee," would appear to imply more than was actually stated by the witness, as his Lordship in Council cannot discover that Wittul Row asserted he saw the things in question actually sent to the Raja.

6. As for the alleged combinations with the Portuguese, and with Arabia, alluded to in the documents which accompanied your letter of the 31st ultimo, the Governor General in Council could not but regard such plots (even had the accounts which had been furnished of them seemed less improbable than they do), to be too extravagant to be entertained for a moment by any person in his senses; while it appears from the report of the Commission that the Raja of Sattara is by no means deficient in understanding.

7. The Acting Resident, in the ninth paragraph of his letter to your address dated the 12th ultimo, observes, the time necessary to bring these proceedings to a close will necessarily be prolonged. And with reference to this declaration, to the length of time which has already elapsed since this investigation commenced, and to the excitement and alarm which inquiries so extended and protracted must necessarily occasion, I am desired to repeat the suggestion contained in the concluding paragraph of my letter, dated the 7th August, and yet more strongly to urge the inconvenience and uncertainty of these proceedings, and the absolute necessity of bringing them to an early termination. In the hopelessness that all further evidence will be otherwise than inconclusive, and looking to the utmost degree of criminality, which in any view of the testimony before the Commission may be regarded as clearly and absolutely established, looking, too, to the interval which has since elapsed in inquiries leading to no further definite and important disclosures, his Lordship in Council would gladly find that the Right Honourable the Governor in Council is disposed to concur with him in opinion, and would close the proceedings; apprizing the Raja that, although several suspicious circumstances regarding his Highness have been elicited during the progress of this inquiry, yet the British Government is unwilling, without the clearest proof of guilt, to condemn any of its allies, especially one who has been so pre-eminently the object of its favour and generosity; that further investigation is deemed inexpedient with reference to the general inconvenience it creates; and that the Right Honourable the Governor in Council is therefore pleased to close the inquiry, with the expression of his hope that the Raja will so conduct himself for the future as to avoid the predicament (no less painful to the British Government than to his Highness) in which he has recently been placed.

8. As regards the Dewan, who is now understood to be in confinement at Ahmednuggur, his Lordship in Council observes, that if the suggestion con-
tained

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Letter from W. H.
Macnaghten, Esq.
to W. H. Wathen,
Esq.
2 Oct. 1837.

tained in this letter should be adopted, the liberation of the individual in question will probably follow the cessation of further inquiry into the conduct of the Raja.

I have the honour, &c.

Fort William,
2nd October, 1837.

(Signed) W. H. MACNAGHTEN,
Secretary to the Government of India.

Letter from W. H.
Macnaghten, Esq.
to W. H. Wathen,
Esq.
16 Oct. 1837.

LETTER FROM W. H. MACNAGHTEN, ESQ., SECRETARY TO
GOVERNMENT, TO W. H. WATHEN, ESQ., CHIEF SECRETARY
TO GOVERNMENT, BOMBAY,

Dated 16th October, 1837.

(Political Department.)

Sir,—I am desired by the Right Honourable the Governor General of India in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your several letters of the dates noted in the margin,* together with their respective enclosures, on the subject of the inquiry into the conduct of the Raja of Sattara.

2. The proceedings reported in the communications now acknowledged are not, I am desired to state, such as to meet the approbation of his Lordship in Council.

3. That the Raja of Sattara, forgetful of all former obligations, and nettled by an alleged grievance, is disaffected to the British Government, and that he has been led by designing people, enemies either to him or to the British Government, into acts intended to be injurious to that Government may be conceded; but the result of the later proceedings of the Right Honourable the Governor in Council has, I am desired to add, tended rather to weaken than to strengthen the case against him, for they prove either the extent of the falsehood which is mingled with these accusations, or the imbecility with which the Raja is capable of entertaining projects of so wild a description. Except from the statement which may possibly be made by Govind Row, his Lordship in Council sees nothing in all this evidence which is likely to throw light upon the conduct of the Raja, so far as it is proper or incumbent on us to inquire into it; and under the circumstances of recent strict duress and expected liberty under which this evidence is to be elicited, it must be received with very considerable caution.

4. Adverting to these considerations, I am desired to state that the papers now acknowledged have strongly confirmed the Governor General in Council in the opinion already expressed, that this perplexed and protracted scrutiny should be at once brought to a conclusion, or at least that all the collateral inquiries which have been in so many quarters instituted should be discontinued as soon as practicable, it being for the real interests of the British Government, whilst it watches and represses with vigilance and firmness the active movements of insurrection, to disregard rumours, and even, in many cases, the realities of petty and obscure intrigues; dependence being placed for the internal power of the empire upon its own manifest strength and the fears of the disaffected, of whom, in the very nature of things, from the transfer of power and property, there must be many, and upon the general interests of the population, which cannot but be opposed to violent commotion. His Lordship in Council is sorry at feeling himself compelled to add, that in the present instance the idea of mistrust and insecurity on the part of the British Government may have been widely spread, from Rajpootana to Madras and Malabar, though the affair is one of no real importance to our power.

5. Against

* Two letters, dated 23rd and 25th September, 1837.

5. Against the further prosecution of these hazardous proceedings, the Governor General in Council deems it incumbent upon him to interfere, so as to prevent any further aggravation of this evil. I am desired, therefore, to convey the request of his Lordship in Council, that the Right Honourable the Governor in Council of Bombay will be pleased to abstain from all further inquiries upon collateral points, or other measures of this nature, leading, as they must do, to nothing but futile and discreditable results.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Letter from W. H.
Macnaghten, Esq.
to W. H. Wathen,
Esq.
16 Oct. 1837.

6. The Governor General in Council will look with some anxiety, though under the circumstances not without suspicion, to any further confession which he may offer to support by direct and substantial proof which may be made by Govind Row, as tending to weaken or confirm the original charge adduced against the Raja or any of his family, of attempting to seduce our sepoys from their allegiance; and he is of opinion, that whatever the Raja of Sattara may have further to state, in reply to those charges, should be fairly taken into consideration before any measures adverse to his Highness can be taken upon the proceedings already held.

7. With regard to Dr. Milne, I am desired to state, that though it was intended that his personal statements should not be rejected, it was not designed to admit him as the partisan and advocate of the Raja, and that his intercourse with the Raja is expressly placed under the control of the Bombay Government.

8. I am desired, at the same time, to state, with reference to the altered state of European society, and to the freedom of access to this country now granted, that the policy may be questionable of discouraging respectable individuals like Dr. Milne, from undertaking the defence of natives of rank, who would probably be driven by such discouragement to resort to the aid of adventurers, careless alike of the reputation of the accused, and of their own government.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. H. MACNAGHTEN.

Fort William,
16th October, 1837.

Secretary to the Government of India.

P.S. Since the above was written, your letters of the 27th and 28th ultimo, with their respective enclosures, have been received; but I am desired to state, that the contents of those communications do not alter the views which the Governor General in Council entertains of the impolicy of the collateral proceedings recently held under the authority of the Right Honourable the Governor in Council; and his Lordship in Council still adheres to the wish already expressed, that the proceeding against the Raja shall be brought to a termination as soon as practicable.

(Signed) W. H. MACNAGHTEN.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN THE VAKEELS OF THE EX-RAJA OF SATTARA AND THE COURT OF DIRECTORS OF THE EAST INDIA COMPANY.

Letter from the
Ex-Raja's Vakeels
to the Court of
Directors,
26 Nov. 1839.

LETTER FROM ESHWUNT ROW RAJA SIRKEY, BHUGWUNT ROW WITTUL, AND MEER AFZALL ALEE, VAKEELS OF HIS HIGHNESS THE EX-RAJA OF SATTARA, TO THE HONOURABLE THE COURT OF DIRECTORS OF THE EAST INDIA COMPANY,

Dated 26th November, 1839.

Honourable Sirs,—As the Vakeels to your Honourable Court of his Highness the Raja of Sattara, we beg with great deference to submit to your Honourable Court the accompanying address (No. 1), which was prepared on the 10th of September last, by Meer Afzall Alee, one of our number; but which was kept back, in the confidence that, as was currently reported, a satisfactory adjustment was on the eve of being effected, in regard to the long and much to be regretted misunderstandings which existed between the Government of Bombay and his Highness; and that it would, in consequence, have been unnecessary to prefer an appeal on any subject to your Honourable Court.

These expectations, which we sincerely cherished, and, in common with others, most fully relied upon, having been grievously disappointed by the lamentable and very unlooked-for intelligence recently received from India, we are now induced to revert to our original intention, and accordingly herewith submit the despatch in question for your Honourable Court's information and consideration; and the powers of Meer Afzall Alee from his Highness, forming an accompaniment thereto, we now do ourselves the honour with this address, to submit those of Eshwunt Row Raja Sirkey and of Bhugwunt Row Wittul, who arrived in this country during midsummer last; Meer Afzall Alee having been here for upwards of eight months preceding that period.

In discharging this duty, we would take the liberty to express our hope that, even at this late period, the step we now take will be attended with advantage. Your Honourable Court will observe from an attentive perusal of the enclosed address, that in cases which admitted of easy and unquestionable proof, as to the rights of the Raja of Sattara, your Indian Government have nevertheless arrived at very erroneous decisions—and will, therefore, be the less disposed to receive, as conclusive, the decision which has now been come to (and surely on information more open to doubt) regarding points of the most vital importance to his Highness, without instituting such an inquiry as would not only have subjected that information, at present entirely *ex parte*, whether oral or documentary, on which his Highness has been declared to be guilty, to the most searching scrutiny in the presence of his Highness; but as would also have enabled his Highness to reply to the same, and to offer such testimony as he may possess, regarding the motives of his accusers, and the machinations and conspiracies to which they have resorted.

Since the deposition of his Highness, we have received his Highness's instructions to press this point most earnestly on your Honourable Court; and to record, on his Highness's behalf, our most solemn protest against the injustice and degradation to which he has been subjected, without having been afforded an opportunity to offer any explanation or defence; without the oral evidence having been given in his Highness's presence, and cross-examined under his directions; and without submitting the documentary proof to all those

those tests, to establish its genuineness, which are considered indispensable, before such evidence is deemed to be valid ; and, in submitting this protest, we are directed to point your Honourable Court's attention to the fact, that all this has happened, though his Highness has most earnestly entreated not to be condemned unheard ; and has expressed his willingness to subject himself to any inquiry which promised to afford him a prospect of seeing his accusers face to face, and of defending himself against the falsehoods they have recorded against him.

We are also desired to state, that his Highness cannot conceive why such a course, which is not refused to the veriest criminal, was not pursued in his case ; and that if it was to spare his Highness's feelings, or to consult his dignity, or arose from any doubt of jurisdiction, what passed between his Highness and your Governor should have proved, that he was willing to waive every consideration, to attain the one important and essential object of not being subject to condemnation, proclaimed to the country as a traitor, and punished as guilty, without a trial. His Highness cannot, however, believe, that any consideration for him could have dictated the refusal, which his reiterated entreaties for an investigation received ; since the measure that was actually resorted to, was not only that which, of all others, inflicted the most deadly blow, whether on the feelings, or the rights or dignities of his Highness ; but was that also, which, he is convinced, would have been averted by the concession of an investigation. And that your Government might have the means of forming its own judgment on this point, his Highness embraced the opportunity of the Honourable the Governor's visit to Sattara, to place in his hands various depositions by, and admissions of, parties who had been engaged in the manufacture of forged documents ; to which they had clandestinely affixed his Highness's seal, and thereby given them every appearance of genuineness ; which they deposed they had done at the request of, and for the express purpose of delivering them to those, whom his Highness considers to have been the most active promoters of all the plots, the indignities, and hardships, to which his Highness has for so long a time been exposed. At the same time, also, his Excellency's attention was particularly directed to these facts by a paper which his Highness presented to him, and in which his Highness again and again pressed on his Excellency the only request which, from the commencement of his troubles, his Highness has preferred to your Government, that all the charges against him should be subjected to proof.

And here we are directed to observe, that if any thing could have added to the hardship of his Highness's case, and the injustice of which he has been the victim, nothing was more calculated to do so than the only alternative which was left to him by your Government, on the visit of the Honourable the Governor to Sattara, either to submit to deposition, or to retain his power and possessions under an admission of his guilt. We need not state—the result declares it—that his Highness, preferring his honour to every consideration, chose without hesitation the former. Had, however, his Highness been guilty, had his own mind been his accuser, he would, your Honourable Court must feel convinced, have submitted to any demand, however humiliating, which gave promise of saving him from the consequences to which he must, in such case, have been sensible he had become justly exposed, and would not have persisted in requiring the adoption of that very measure, which would, of all others, have ensured his conviction and have left him, after having given so much trouble, and made so many and such loud protestations of his innocence, no grounds for hoping for any sympathy from the public, or any favour from your Government.

His Highness cannot but think that the Honourable the Governor, with the determination to which he had come to spare his Highness, even although he was firmly convinced of his guilt, should have so shaped his proceedings, that they, instead of lowering his Highness in his own estimation, and in the opinion of the world, should have excited the gratitude of his Highness towards his Excellency for his magnanimity and kindness. Instead, however, of pursuing a course so obviously wise and politic for the attainment of the object

SATTARA PAPERS.

Letter from the
Ex-Raja's Vakeels
to the Court of
Directors,
26 Nov. 1839.

SATTARA
PAPERS,

Letter from the
Ex-Raja's Vakeels
to the Court of
Directors,
26 Nov. 1839.

which he professed, it should be kept in mind that, while no investigation of which his Highness was cognizant had taken place; and while he declared he was innocent, the only option given to his Highness was to relinquish his dignities, or to retain them with dishonour, under an admission for which the possession of no dignity nor any advantage could, in his opinion, have proved any compensation. His Highness was informed that a return to the interchange of the usual civilities, and the usual intercourse between the English Government and himself, would only take place if his Highness would do that to which, had he yielded compliance, he would have rendered himself unworthy of such a distinction. And this will be evident when we state, on his Highness's authority, that he was called on to sign a paper, the preamble to which declared, that "his Highness having been guilty of *Fittoor*," "and the English Government having for once forgiven it, the following articles "are agreed to:" and that every one of the articles which followed were, if not so direct, yet virtual admissions of his guilt; and the demand that his Highness should give to them his assent could be justified on no other grounds than the conviction of his Highness, after investigation or his own acknowledgment, that the charges against him were true. It will be evident, for instance, that the requisitions to agree to give *bhadaree* or guarantee, and pensions to his accusers, and to expel his *chitnees* or secretary, could be defended on no other plea.

On all these accounts, his Highness has directed us to enter our most unreserved protest against the demand of such a paper; and at the same time to state, that after much and anxious deliberation, the reasons for not having granted it appear to him so obvious and so good, that he really cannot conceive that his compliance with the requisition to sign it, could have served any one purpose which would not have been a thousand times better secured without it; except that it would have formed a document to which his enemies, and even your Government, could have referred your Honourable Court and the public, as a justification of the many harsh measures to which they have subjected his Highness for so long a period; and which, as his Highness has truly observed, might at any future time, when a like spirit of hostility might exist against his Highness, be quoted as the best authority—that of his Highness himself—to prove, that it was no new thing for his Highness to be guilty of breaches of good faith. In such a case, by no means, if we judge by the past, improbable, his Highness would be as little credited as he is now; but with more reason, if he met such an accusation by asserting, that the fact stated was no proof of his habits—but of his having been obliged to yield to a power which he could not resist; and which, under the threat of deposition, obliged him, though refused a trial—and though protesting his innocence—to certify to his own dishonour.

Nothing, it will be obvious, from these considerations, but a perfect oblivion of the past, both by the British Government and his Highness, could have enabled your Government to carry out the policy of the Honourable the Governor to any beneficial purpose; with every disposition to conciliate, it would have required, after what has occurred, a long intercourse of kindly feelings to have generated that confidence, which could have rendered a renewal of intercourse satisfactory or useful. Instead, however, of encouraging a disposition to conciliate the impressions, on the one hand, entertained by the British Government, of his Highness's breach of treaty; and on the other, his Highness's recollections of the injurious suspicions and cruel treatment he has experienced at the hands of the British Government, were only likely to be perpetuated by a measure, which, whilst it humiliated the Raja, placed an admission of his guilt, however indirect, in the possession of the British Government. Had this taken place—that cordiality, and that perfect understanding, so essential to the existence of friendly relations, would have been altogether wanting; and no satisfaction could have resulted from a connexion embittered by suspicion and mistrust. Better, since investigation, which alone

* This term is here intended to charge his Highness with treasonable practices, and generally with disloyalty and breach of engagements.

alone could clear up all doubts, was withheld, that his Highness at once accepted the alternative of deposition, great as was the sacrifice he thereby made, than incur the many hazardous risks involved in the adjustment that was proposed.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Letter from the
Ex-Raja's Vakeels
to the Court of
Directors,
26 Nov. 1839.

In now appealing to your Honourable Court, and by instructions from his Highness, entreating that your Honourable Court will yet be pleased, in a matter in which not only the credit of your Indian Administration, but the good name and the fortunes of his Highness are so deeply involved, to concede an impartial investigation; we would beg to state, that it is his Highness's wish, that the orders of your Honourable Court should be to the effect, that your Government shall adduce and thoroughly sift every kind of evidence in their possession against his Highness; and having afforded his Highness an opportunity of as fully doing the same, and of adducing his own testimony, that the whole case should then be submitted to the just and impartial tribunal of your Honourable Court, to whose decision, under such circumstances, whatever it may be, his Highness will yield most implicit obedience and respect; or his Highness will be happy to bow, with all the deference he has ever evinced, to that high, honourable, and just statesman, Mr. Elphinstone, if your Honourable Court should be pleased to refer every thing at issue, between your Government and himself, to his judgment and decision; but his Highness has directed us to protest in the strongest language we can use, against the assumption, by the Government of India, of the office of his judges (whether as refers to their past ex parte condemnation and punishment of his Highness, or to any future investigation which may be instituted), on account of the spirit of hostility to his Highness, which seems to have actuated your Government throughout this long protracted controversy; as evinced in their manifest breach of treaty, as regards his Highness's rights over the Punt Suchew and other Jagheerdars, and which has now been persisted in, notwithstanding the most earnest applications of his Highness for several years; in the imprisonment of his servants without trial, a measure which not only filled all his Highness's friends with dismay, and intimidated them from giving him counsel or assistance, but also, as it were, isolated him from all around him, and exhibited him as doomed to be visited with some signal mark of displeasure; in the Government as well as the Resident declining to continue the usual and periodical interchanges of civilities, and in a marked disregard of all his communications; in the Resident possessing himself—how, he only can tell—of the communications of his Highness's agents in Bombay, and not only subjecting them to perusal, but taking copies of them for transmission to your Government; and in the condemnation which has just been passed on his Highness, not only without a hearing, but without furnishing him with even the ex parte evidence by which that act is justified. All these circumstances, as well as others, which it would be too tedious to enumerate, are, his Highness is of opinion, so many moral reasons why your Government in India, both was, and still is bound to refrain from assuming the office of his judges; for, having so mixed themselves up in the case, both as principals and accessories, it is but reasonable to fear, that however desirous they might be to guard against all undue influence, they could not avoid seeing every thing through such a medium as would tend to justify all that his Highness complains of.

The chief object of this address being to obtain an order from your Honourable Court for an impartial investigation of the charges against his Highness, we do not think it necessary to advert to these charges specifically; or to shew forth any of the motives which have guided the several parties by whom they have been got up. Whatever the charges are, and we have no knowledge of them but by report, we beg most distinctly to state, that we not only hold them to be in no respect proven, since they rest on evidence of which his Highness knows nothing, and since his Highness has never been in anywise a party to any proceedings to try the facts on which the alleged charges are founded; but, under such circumstances, we also hold the condemnation passed, and the punishment inflicted on his Highness, as contrary to justice; and

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Letter from the
Ex-Raja's Vakeels
to the Court of
Directors,
26 Nov. 1839.

and therefore, however his Highness has been obliged to submit to power, as altogether without force or validity.

We beg, however, that your Honourable Court will not be disposed to infer from our silence in regard to the charges, that we could not offer explanations regarding them; that we could not, for instance, prove that the 5th article of the treaty was relaxed (which fact your Government is, or ought to be aware of), without any solicitation by his Highness to that effect, by Sir John Malcolm, so that the mere circumstance of having written to foreign chieftains, if such really has been done, if not on treasonable subjects, cannot in consequence be considered to be a breach of that article; or that we could not satisfy your Honourable Court that if treasonable letters, addressed to his Highness, have been intercepted, they can be no evidence of his Highness's guilt, till his Highness is convicted of having encouraged such communications, and till the letters themselves are really proved to be genuine; any more than a treasonable letter written to your Honourable Court and intercepted, could, of itself simply, be considered as proof that your Honourable Court participated in treasonable transactions; so also, were we to depart from the rule we have laid down, we could expose the extravagance and ridiculousness, as well as the falsehood of the charges connected with Goa; and with the asserted attempt to corrupt the troops of your Honourable Court. All this, however, will be better effected under a formal investigation, such as we trust your Honourable Court will concede to the earnest entreaty of his Highness.

And here we may state his Highness's prayer, that, on an investigation being instituted, he may be allowed to avail himself of such assistance as he may consider requisite to enable him to cope with the talent at the command of your Government; and which, as the inquiry will embrace and decide equally upon its measures, as the charges against his Highness, will naturally feel desirous to the utmost to justify the same.

His Highness will not, we would add, offer any frivolous or vexatious opposition to the termination of the inquiry with all possible despatch—so that no objection on this score should be allowed to prevent your Honourable Court from ordering its commencement forthwith.

If your Honourable Court should have a doubt of the effects of this measure, we would venture to assure you of our conviction that no victory however splendid, nor any conquest however valuable, will do so much for the honour and stability of the British power in India, as your willing acquiescence in a prayer, the object of which is to solicit that a dependent, yet a sovereign prince, should not continue to be deprived of his high station and his rights, without an open investigation to prove that he merits such a degradation. In the case of a power independent of your Government, and which would not yield to such an inquiry, your Government would be warranted in proceeding to resent any breach of faith, or other offence, on such evidence as it may be able to acquire, and as they may consider worthy of credence; but the relative positions of your Honourable Court and of his Highness, and particularly his own reiterated application for an investigation, leave your Honourable Court no justification for applying the same principles to the case of his Highness.

Before we conclude this address, we would respectfully solicit your Honourable Court's consideration of a few observations, explanatory of the employment of certain agents, ourselves among others, which his Highness has resorted to, and which appears to have given offence.

On this subject we would state that his Highness considered himself, by the peculiar circumstances in which he was placed, constrained to have recourse to such agency.

He had, in the first instance, long felt that his communications through the Resident, on many important points, were productive of no good; and that
all

all his complaints of the conduct of Government, especially in regard to the Jagheerdars, were unattended to, or were decided upon, and justified contrary to treaty, and his rights set at naught.

In the second place, the Resident gave ear to false charges against his Highness, and acting on these with an eagerness that evinced a disposition to seize on any pretence to harass and ruin his Highness, the Government ordered a Commission to sit at Sattara, which condemned his Highness on evidence not given before him, and without his defence. Of this Commission, so acting, General Lodwick, the Resident at his Highness's Court, Mr. Willoughby, the Political Secretary to Government, and Colonel Ovans, were members. Your Honourable Court will admit that such a circumstance could not much tend to render further intercourse between the Resident and his Highness satisfactory to either party.

If, previous to the Commission, he had failed to obtain redress for his Highness, in matters to which his Highness attached the greatest importance, it was but natural to suppose that after taking part in such an inquiry he would be less likely to do so in future.

Thirdly, shortly after, this Resident was removed; but his successor, Colonel Ovans, having also, as has been stated, been a member of the Commission alluded to, came to Sattara convinced of his Highness's guilt; and, as far as could be judged by the proceedings to which he resorted on his arrival, determined to the utmost to persecute his Highness. Without trial, his Highness's most confidential servants were committed to prison by him; and his Highness thus cut off from all who, under his difficulties and indignities, could afford him sympathy or advice, was glad to take hold of the hand which was extended to him by an old and respected servant of the Company; and, in reliance on his qualifications for the task, confided his interests to his advocacy with your Government; from which, through his exertions, he flattered himself he might obtain that redress, of which he had ceased to indulge any hope through the Resident, whose efforts seemed solely devoted to the one object of proving some breach of treaty against his Highness.

If in this respect, therefore, his Highness has offended, he was forced to do so by the hostile policy of your Government, for we do not, with every deference, hesitate to question the good feeling and the justice to his Highness, and the discretion of your Government in retaining gentlemen in the office of Resident at Sattara, who had (and the more unjustifiably the worse) condemned his Highness as a traitor, when his Highness had no other channel of communication with your Government, and could employ no other without affording grounds for offence. Of all the injurious treatment experienced at the hands of your Government, his Highness does not consider this as the least cruel or oppressive; and we doubt not your Honourable Court will be disposed to admit that, when but one medium of intercourse was sanctioned, it should have been such as, if it did not equally possess the confidence of the Raja as of your Government, should, at least, have been free from all suspicion of enmity or prejudice against him or his interests.

These facts his Highness considers to be a sufficient justification of his employment of any other channel of communication than the Resident; and even if they were not, he trusts your Honourable Court will see no cause of offence in his having done so, his sole motive having been, through his own agents, to endeavour to regain that position in the good opinion of your Government, which he, with the deepest regret, observed that by the machinations of his enemies he had lost, and which he despaired of effecting through an agency in which, for such good reasons, he could not confide. If it be an offence most anxiously to desire to stand well with your Honourable Court and with your Government, then his Highness must plead guilty; but if otherwise, then his Highness feels confident that the only end he ever held in view must, under the circumstances detailed, justify the means.

And here we would protest against inferring the spirit with which his Highness

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Letter from the
Ex-Raja's Vakeels
to the Court of
Directors,
26 Nov. 1839.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Letter from the
Ex-Raja's Vakeels
to the Court of
Directors,
26 Nov. 1839.

ness wished his advocacy to be conducted, from the tone and manner in which that duty may have been discharged. His Highness, we assure your Honourable Court, even under the justest cause of complaint, never wished to depart from that courtesy and deference which he feels for your Government; and if such has occurred, the same should not be attributed to his Highness, whose peculiar situation in regard to his agency cannot be better explained, than by likening him to a ship at sea, whose safety, being overtaken by a pitiless storm, must necessarily depend on the exertions of the mariner, whether skilful or otherwise, who endeavours to steer her into a harbour of refuge. His Highness, it should be remembered, is ignorant of your language, and of your conventional forms of courtesy; at the same time he was confiding, and believed that all that was necessary in such respects would be attended to; and taking into consideration the many disadvantages under which he laboured, your Honourable Court will not, we trust, be disposed to add any failures in these respects to his account.

As to the missions to England, we would only state, that they have had their origin in some circumstance of necessity, *viz.* the position of hostility which your Resident and Government had placed themselves in with regard to his Highness, and in the same motives, a desire to obtain redress for grievances, and to seek for an impartial investigation of the charges against him, as will be evident from the annexed translation of a correspondence, which, previous to the embarkation of the agents, occurred between the Resident and his Highness; and in which the reasons for their deputation are distinctly set forth.

We would, however, respectfully contend, that his employment of agents to communicate with your Government, and with your Honourable Court, though contrary to the wish of the Resident, cannot be maintained to be a breach of the spirit of the treaty; and that it would be a harsh and unfavourable interpretation of the treaty, and might be the cause of much oppression without a hope of redress, to declare it to be so; independent of which, it can be shewn that it was warranted by precedent in the time of Mr. Elphinstone's Government.

We have now fulfilled the task which has been allotted to us; and, in discharging it, we have been constantly influenced by a desire to the utmost, to evince that respect, which we sincerely entertain for the high station, the great and the good reputation, and the paramount authority of your Honourable Court.

The necessity, however, of placing before your Honourable Court some few of the facts on which we ground our appeal, has, we deeply regret to say, obliged us to speak in terms of complaint of the conduct of your Government. Our regard to truth, and the honest discharge of our duty, forced us to this; and these considerations will, we hope, be our apology, not only to your Honourable Court, but to your Government in India.

Whether an earlier appeal to your Honourable Court would have been of use to his Highness, it is not possible for us to decide; but that one was not sooner submitted by our colleague, Meer Afzall Alec, is alone owing to his having been informed of the aversion of your Honourable Court to receive appeals, except through the medium of your Government in India; and his fear, therefore, that his intrusion might in nowise promote the object which would have led him to make it. It is not our province to question your Honourable Court's policy in this respect—we would only say, that whatever may be the opinion that we entertain concerning it, or however we may regret it, we have respected it to the utmost of our power; and even now, at this eleventh hour, we come before your Honourable Court with such reluctance, that nothing short of a conscientious conviction as to our duty could have induced us to do so. We humbly trust, therefore, that, notwithstanding our breach of your rules, your Honourable Court will not allow such a consideration to prevent this address being favourably received. If, we respectfully assure your Honourable Court, such should be its good fortune, the same will be
received

received as a proof of your Honourable Court's love of justice throughout the whole of your Eastern Empire.

We have the honour to be,

Honourable Sirs,

With the greatest respect,

Your most obedient humble Servants,

ESHWUNT ROW RAJA SIRKEY, and

BHUGWUNT ROW WITTUL,

Vakeels of Shreemunt Maharaj Raja Shree Purtab Sew Chuttraputtee.

MEER AFZALL ALEE,

Vakeel to the Maharaj Chuter Putee of Sitara.

London, No. 34, George Street, Euston Square,
26th November, 1839.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Letter from the
Ex-Raja's Vakeels
to the Court of
Directors,
26 Nov. 1839.

No. 1.

LETTER FROM MEER AFZALL ALEE, VAKEEL OF THE EX-
RAJA OF SATTARA, TO THE HON. COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Dated 26th Nov. 1839.

Letter from the
Ex-Raja's Vakeel
to the Court of
Directors,
26 Nov. 1839.

Honourable Sirs,—I have the honour to submit to your Honourable Court that I have been deputed to lay several matters, of great moment, in reference to the rights and authority of the Raja of Sattara over his Jagheerdars, before your Honourable Court; and to solicit that the same may be taken into serious consideration; as well as that such instructions may be issued thereon, as shall, for the future, preclude any misunderstanding between your Honourable Court's Government in India and his Highness, on points of such vital moment to the rights secured to his Highness by treaty with the Honourable Company—and to the maintenance of that friendly feeling which till lately has invariably been evinced by the English Government towards his Highness, and the renewal of which his Highness, above all things, most anxiously desires.

In proof of my having been duly empowered to this effect, I beg, accompanying, to furnish your Honourable Court with the official credentials of his Highness, the Raja, in my favour. This document, I respectfully request, your Honourable Court will, being satisfied of its authenticity, have the goodness to return to me.

It must be well known to your Honourable Court that, when under restraint by the late Peishwa Bajee Row, his Highness embraced every suitable occasion to manifest to the Honourable Company's authorities in the Deccan, the friendship he entertained towards the English Government; and that he availed himself of the first opportunity, after the rupture with Bajee Row, to join the English army—a step which, while it greatly weakened and disconcerted Bajee Row, was proportionally beneficial to the English cause, which was thereby, in the opinion of the great Sirdars of the Deccan, and of the people generally, identified with that of his Highness, as the representative of the Mahratta empire. This was evinced by the defections, which soon thereafter ensued, of many of the most powerful and most influential of Bajee Row's adherents—who, thus forsaken, was not again able to oppose the English army; and soon after completely abandoned a contest on which he had entered with powerful resources—under feelings of the most inveterate hostility to the British nation, and with high hopes of driving its forces from the Deccan.

On joining the British army his Highness was received with high distinction by General Sir Lionel Smith, and also, afterwards, by the Honourable Mr. Elphinstone,

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Letter from the
Ex-Raja's Vakeel
to the Court of
Directors,
26 Nov. 1839.

Elphinstone, who, fully aware of the important advantage, at such a juncture, of the presence of his Highness, in connection with the operations then carrying on, had been anxious, by concerting measures with his Highness's agents, to facilitate that event; and who assured his Highness, through these agents, that: "If his Highness co-operated with the English, they would act towards him on the same principles as they had acted on to the Raja of Mysore, on the conquest of that country:"—and, subsequently, at an interview with Mr. Elphinstone, that gentleman stated to his Highness, that "the agreement with his Highness should be fulfilled according to a treaty which should be delivered to him;" and he added, "the English Government regards your family, and the memory of your ancestors, with respect; and, above all, it never forgets any one who has rendered it aid in circumstances of difficulty and danger. Your Highness's loyalty has not escaped the observation of the English Government, and its conduct towards you will be just and liberal—for that Government is uniformly anxious to promote the prosperity of its adherents, it being a maxim of its policy, that the interest of such persons should be as dear to it as its own."

Other interviews took place, at which similar assurances were given to his Highness by Mr. Elphinstone, pending the receipt of the instructions of the Governor General; and at length, on the 25th September, 1819, Captain Grant presented a treaty for his Highness's acceptance, which immediately received the confirmation of his Highness.

By that treaty a principality was conferred on his Highness, consisting of a tract of country within certain specified limits, as well as the sovereignty over certain Jagheerdars, some of whose estates are situated within these limits, and some are beyond them.

This last fact (*viz.* that some of the jagheers rendered subject to his Highness are situated beyond the assigned limits) it is important to bear in mind, as in the sequel, it has been adduced as a plea for denying his Highness's jurisdiction over the chieftain denominated "the Suchew," one of those Jagheerdars, and for substituting that of the English Government in its stead; thereby not only depriving his Highness of the present exercise of a right, distinctly conveyed to, and for many years enjoyed by him under treaty, but also shutting the door to his right of succession to that jagheer in case of resumption, from failure of heirs or any other cause.

For many years after the conclusion of this treaty, a most perfect understanding was on all points maintained between the British Government and his Highness.

The British Government fully recognized, in all particulars, his Highness as sovereign over all the Jagheerdars enumerated in the schedule annexed to the treaty; and subject to advising in certain cases with that Government, his Highness alone controlled and adjudicated in all matters having reference to them or their jagheers. All of them entered into engagements with his Highness to abide by his Highness's rule and authority, to conduct themselves with loyalty and fidelity, and to perform certain services to his Highness, either personally or with troops; and in return for these stipulations, his Highness confirmed the possession of their estates during the life of the incumbents, or during good behaviour, by a special grant, which was guaranteed by the British Government.

On the death of any incumbent, the question of succession rested with his Highness, who, in the case of heirs claiming in virtue of blood relationship, has hitherto always conferred on them the rights and possessions of their predecessors, without subjecting them to any nuzzurana or fine.

In the case, however, of the succession of adopted sons, his Highness has, in some cases, with the sanction of the British Government, imposed certain fines and burthens, in consideration of the privileges which he had conferred.

The correspondence between the British Government (when the Honourable Mr. Elphinstone was Governor of Bombay) and his Highness, is full of proofs that

that that distinguished statesman never entertained a doubt of his Highness possessing the same rights over the Jagheerdars beyond the limits specified in the treaty, as over those whose possessions are within those limits; and it was not till the time of the government of Lord Clare that any pretensions were advanced to the prejudice of his Highness in this respect.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Letter from the
Ex-Raja's Vakeel
to the Court of
Directors.
26 Nov. 1839.

When the first hindrance to the exercise of his usual jurisdiction was experienced by his Highness, he made a representation on the subject to the Governor, requesting the Governor in Council would examine his papers, and take his affairs into consideration, so as to see how they had stood up "to that time, "and whether his statements were correct or not," adding, "that should they "be found incorrect, he would abstain from all further agitation of the subject."

In reply to this reasonable request, his Highness was informed, that a reference would be made to England on the subject; and Lord Clare, Mr. Sutherland, and General Lodwick, in conversation with his Highness, counselled him to write to Mr. Elphinstone, Captain Grant, and General Robertson concerning it.

With this advice his Highness immediately complied; but the letters never reached those to whom they were addressed, having been returned to his Highness by the Honourable Court, who then intimated to his Highness "That "your Honourable Court would not be negligent in inquiring into the concerns "of the Maharaj, and in doing what is right, of your own accord; and that "therefore it was not considered necessary by your Honourable Court that his "Highness should correspond with any other persons." And your Honourable Court added, "that there seems no difficulty in regard to the subject that "his Highness had written about; that the treaty imposed it on your Honourable Court to act towards his Highness's Jagheerdars as your Honourable Court acted towards those of the English Government; that the authority "of the Maharaj did certainly extend over the Jagheerdars; that in the event "of any Jagheerdars dying without heirs, any appointment of a successor by "the English Government should be void; and that such jagheer reverting to "his Highness, he could not be required to confer it on any adopted son."

The differences arising out of the question of the limits were also settled by the answer of your Honourable Court, but the decision is not respected by the Government in India; and his Highness's authority over his Jagheerdars, and his respectability, are thereby daily weakened and impaired.

After the arrival of your Honourable Court's answer, the following Order in Council was transmitted to his Highness:—

"The Neera river is the southern boundary of the territory of Suchew, and "the English Government's jurisdiction extends over it. As the Putwurdhun "is independent (of the Maharaj), so is in the same manner the Suchew independent in his jagheer." In reply, his Highness stated, "that by treaty, "and by the documents and letters of the Honourable Court, the Jagheerdars "of the Maharaj (one of whom is the Suchew) stand in the same relation to "him as those of the English do to that Government; and that if the English "Government have authority over Putwurdhun, so also has his Highness "authority in the same degree over the Suchew."

His Highness also represented to your Honourable Court's Government in India the propriety of acting conformably to the answer received from your Honourable Court, and requested that, should any doubt be still entertained on the subject, a further reference should be made to supply what might be wanting to remove all uncertainty. To this his Highness received for reply, "A reference has been made to England, and his Highness will be informed "as soon as an answer arrives;" but when inquiry is made concerning the reply, no time is specified when it may be expected, nor any assurance given on the subject; and though Lord Clare, on his leaving India, wrote to his Highness to assure him "that no deviation should take place from the treaty"—and General Lodwick, the Resident, had frequently said "the claims of the Maharaj

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Letter from the
Ex-Raja's Vakeel
to the Court of
Directors,
26 Nov. 1839.

“Maharaj are extremely just, and the Government of Bombay will comply “with them”—yet no redress has been afforded to his Highness, who has therefore deemed it incumbent on him to address your Honourable Court on this subject; and under his Highness’s instructions, I beg, with all deference, to state that by the decision to which the Government of Bombay has come, respecting his Highness’s authority over the Punt Suchew, on the plea that his possessions are to the north of the Neera (one of the boundary lines of his Highness’s principality), his Highness is deprived of rights secured to him, not only by treaty, but by the admission of the Government, not *tacit*, but *express*, of many years.

In support of this position, I would first point your Honourable Court’s attention to the stipulation in the treaty with his Highness, which, after having recorded “the determination of the British Government to invest his Highness with a *sovereignty* sufficient for the maintenance of his family in comfort and dignity,” states, in the first article, “the British Government agrees to *cede in perpetual sovereignty to the Raja, his heirs, and successors, the districts specified in the annexed schedule.*”

In these territories, so ceded and specified in this schedule, are certain jagheers, amongst which are those of the Punt Suchew, and of the Akulkote Raja; the whole of which latter is situated beyond the specified boundary on the east, while part of the former is beyond the boundary on the north. Yet the words used in the schedule, after enumerating various other territories, are as follow:—“together with the possessions of the Raja of Akulkote, the Punt Suchew, the Prithee Nidhee, and the jagheer of the Dufflays in the pergunna of Jhut:”—thus making over these territories to the Raja, without reserve in any respect, in consequence of their position, in reference to the boundary lines.

Words cannot be clearer—and, did they stand alone, they would, I am instructed to state, fully bear out the claim which his Highness advances, to the exclusion of any jurisdiction of the Honourable Company within those jagheers. But it happens that, clear as are these terms, they are supported and borne out by other express stipulations in the said schedule. Thus the following passage in the schedule distinctly admits that the jagheers are exclusive of the assigned boundaries—

“The Raja having been told that his frontier should extend from the Kistna and Warna on the south—to the Neera and Bheema on the north—and from the western ghauts (Shyadree Hills) on the west—to the city of Punderpore on the east—*exclusive of the jagheers*—there will be some additional territory made over to him from the province of Beejapoor, to be hereafter specified, &c.”

No remarks that I could offer to your Honourable Court could add weight to the testimony borne by these extracts from the treaty, and its accompanying schedule. They speak for themselves, and, as forcibly as words can do, clearly recognize that, in so far as certain ceded jagheers are concerned, his Highness’s jurisdiction extends beyond the boundaries defined in the treaty; and, accordingly, from the first cession of the territories, the authority of his Highness was established over all the districts and jagheers enumerated in the schedule, whether situated within or beyond the boundaries, and was so established, not by his Highness, but by the Honourable Company’s Agent at his Highness’s Court, who, in virtue of a stipulation in the treaty to that effect, administered the affairs of the principality for several years, under the direct control of your Honourable Court’s Government, in the name, and for the behoof, of his Highness; a fact, which of itself ought to have been sufficient to prove to the present Government that their pretensions have no foundation whatever.

Mr. Elphinstone framed the treaty, and he knew well, not only its object, but the spirit in which it should be acted upon. For a space of nine years that he presided over the Government, no pretensions such as have now been urged were ever advanced. Sir John Malcolm also was three years Governor, and during his time all his Highness’s rights were respected. These enlight-
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ened statesmen took a liberal, just, and kind interest in all that concerned his Highness. They considered his Highness not as a chieftain whom they were to watch with jealousy and suspicion, but as a prince whose rights, owing them all, as he did, to the generosity of the English nation, it was their duty to uphold and protect; and, consequently, on all occasions when any of his vassals hoped, by means of an appeal to them, to encroach on his Highness's authority and privileges, or to treat him with contumacy or disrespect, their conduct and pretensions were invariably reprobated and discouraged.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Letter from the
Ex-Raja's Vakeel
to the Court of
Directors,
26 Nov. 1839.

I would now beg to submit, in further proof of the rights of his Highness over the jagheer of the Punt Suchew, the opinion and decision of the Honourable Mr. Elphinstone on this point, at a time and under circumstances which entitle that opinion to the greatest weight.

On the adoption, in 1827, of the late Suchew, Mr. Elphinstone, in reply to a complaint on the part of the Suchew who adopted him, concerning the conditions his Highness annexed to his sanction of the adoption, expressly stated to him that, though he and his heirs were to hold the jagheer on certain specified terms, yet, that on the total failure of heirs, it must revert to his Highness; and that, therefore, it rested with his Highness, if he permitted its continuance by adoption, to attach what conditions he thought expedient to the permission. He was also reminded, that on the settlement of the Deccan, after its conquest, he (the Suchew) voluntarily preferred the Raja's sovereignty, and that, therefore, the decision must rest with his Highness—the British Government not having a right to interfere, unless there be a breach of engagement.

Had Mr. Elphinstone considered that the British Government had not ceded the whole of the jagheer of the Punt Suchew in sovereignty to his Highness, he surely would not have omitted, on such an occasion, to have asserted the right of the British Government over the reserved portion. He not only, however, made no mention of any right of the Honourable Company, but expressly and distinctly acknowledged that his Highness alone had a right as sovereign to decide on the point at issue; and at the same time, informed the Suchew that it was in consequence of his own wish that his jagheer was constituted a portion of his Highness's principality.

A copy of this communication from Mr. Elphinstone to the Punt Suchew was transmitted to his Highness, who naturally feels greatly at a loss to conceive on what grounds your present Government can justify the pretensions it has now set up; so contrary not only to the treaty, but also to usage, and the recorded opinions of the eminent statesman who, having negotiated the treaty, was of all others the best able to speak to the spirit in which, and the objects for which it was framed.

The correspondence of Mr. Elphinstone with his Highness exhibits equally strong proofs of that statesman's opinion, in regard to the entire dependence of the chieftain of Akulkote on his Highness; and the whole of the Akulkote possessions being beyond the specified boundary, I would respectfully urge, that what holds good in regard to them must be equally valid in regard to those of the Punt Suchew; the same treaty being applicable to both.

I would here, before quitting this subject, take the liberty of again recapitulating the grounds on which his Highness deems the decision which your Government has come to regarding it, to be an invasion of his rights, and as such, a breach of the treaty by which those rights were conceded.

First. The schedule distinctly says, his Highness was told, such and such rivers and mountains were to be his limits; but that certain jagheers were *exclusive* of those limits.

Secondly. The British Government itself managed for a considerable time the principality of his Highness, and established and exercised his Highness's authority over those jagheers; whether over those portions situated within, or beyond the constituted limits.

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Thirdly.

Letter from the
Ex-Raja's Vakeel
to the Court of
Directors,
26 Nov. 1839.

Thirdly. The management was subsequently made over to his Highness, who continued for several years, with the knowledge of the British Government, to pursue the same course.

Fourthly. One of these Jagheerdars being on the point of death, desired to adopt a son, and applied to his Highness, as his sovereign, for permission to do so; but being dissatisfied with the conditions which the Raja annexed to that permission, appealed to the British Government against them, which distinctly assured the appellant, that his Highness was his sovereign; that with him alone it rested, whether he should annex the jagheer to his own possessions, on his death, without issue, or permit adoption; that the British Government had no right to interfere; and further, as it were to leave no doubt on the subject, the Jagheerdar was also then reminded, that it was at his own request that he was rendered subject to his Highness, instead of the British Government.

Fifthly. All this occurred, while the distinguished functionary who framed the treaty, and who best knew the extent of the concessions made by it to his Highness, was at the head of affairs.

With such facts before your Honourable Court, I am persuaded that your Honourable Court will be of opinion, that you have information sufficient to enable you to decide what construction the treaty should receive.

I would now, therefore, close my observations on this case, with an expression of my confidence, that his Highness will have every reason to be satisfied with the decision which your Honourable Court's sense of justice will induce you to come to on this appeal; and that such decision will put at rest a question which has too long formed a subject of discussion between the British Government and his Highness.

There are a few other cases to which I would solicit the attention of your Honourable Court.

1st. That of the jagheer known as that of Shaik Mera of Waec. This Sirdar died some years ago, and his Highness, with the concurrence of the English Government, conferred his jagheer on his son, Khan Mahommed. The income of the jagheer, which is of small amount, is derived from lands situated within the territories of the British Government, and at a distance from those of his Highness.

In this case jurisdiction is not claimed; that rests with the British Government, which issued instructions to its officers, that Khan Mahommed should be put in possession of the revenue, in virtue of the title conferred on him by his Highness. The collector obeyed this order, and wrote to Khan Mahommed that the same course "which had been pursued in regard to his ancestors, " would continue in his case to be acted upon," and accordingly for several years such was the case; but for the last three or four years the lands have been resumed, and this dependent of his Highness has been deprived of the income allotted to him, in requital of services which he is bound, by engagement with his Highness, with the express sanction of the British Government, to render to his Highness; and this has taken place, notwithstanding that his Highness certified the death of Shaik Mera, and the succession of his son; and notwithstanding that this jagheer was conferred in perpetuity on his Highness in an amended schedule to the treaty, which was furnished on the further cession to his Highness of the district of Beejapoor, and which, in adding that district and the jagheer of Phultun, then constituted his Highness's possessions, as detailed in the former schedule, in nowise affected any of his rights as at that time existing; of which fact, no other proof need be adduced, than the reply quoted in the preceding part of this despatch of the Honourable Mr. Elphinstone to the Punt Suchew, in the year 1827, after the new schedule was formed.

2nd. I would beg to represent the case of the Muntree. This is the designation of one of the eight Purdhans, or great ministers of state, constituted by the ancestors of his Highness. The person who held that dignity before the present incumbent, having no son, applied for and received the permission of his

his Highness to adopt one as his heir. Under this sanction the present officer succeeded to the dignity, and the jagheer attached to it, but the lands constituting the jagheer being within the limits of the English Government, the nuzzurana payable on succession has been levied by the English Government. His Highness considers that, deriving his right, as the Jagheerदार has done, from his having sanctioned the adoption, and the succession to office, and the duties in requital of which the jagheer is held, being rendered to his Highness, the nuzzurana should have been paid to his government, to which alone the Muntree owes loyalty and allegiance. The pecuniary value of the question at issue is small, and it is rather for the principle, than for the money, that his Highness would venture to contend.

3rd. The next case is that of the Khasgee Wala. This jagheer is one of those known as those of "recent origin," which on the death of the incumbent without heirs, would have been declared by the British Government to be resumable by his Highness.

Notwithstanding this, and that the village (Kuntolè), of which the jagheer is composed, is situated within the limits of his Highness's territories, it was sequestered by, and for the benefit of, the British Government, on the death of the late Jagheerदार without heirs. Not a scintilla of doubt, I respectfully beg to assure your Honourable Court, exists in regard to his Highness's right to this village, yet its restoration is withheld to this day. That these minor jagheers, situated within his Highness's limits, should, in default of heirs, revert to his Highness, was decided by Mr. Elphinstone, when the jagheer of Phultun was, at the request of the English Government, constituted by his Highness, by the grant of the lands which now compose that jagheer, as some eventual compensation to his Highness for the loss sustained by that measure, and this was also expressly declared to be an advantage which his Highness might look to, when he was asked to forego a small yearly sum which he derived from the Wishalghur Prithce Nidhee, a dependence on Pritchethgur. On this occasion the British Government stated, "it is necessary that the Maharaj should abandon his claim to this sum, since in future should any of the Jagheerदars die without heirs their possessions will revert to the Maharaj."

Independent of this, as regards the specific case which has given rise to these observations, the Honourable Mr. Elphinstone, in a communication to his Highness, dated 17th February, 1827, admits that the Khasgee Wala's village of Kuntolè (the village which is now retained by the English Government), belongs to his Highness.

4th. I would now solicit the Honourable Court's attention to the case of the Jagheerदars of Sectolè, which is a jagheer dependent on the Raja of Akulkote, a vassal of his Highness.

The late Jagheerदार at his death left sons, who should have been permitted to succeed to his property, but difficulties have been raised on this score by the English authorities, and the rights of the parties are withheld—and this notwithstanding the jagheer is within his Highness's limits, and his Highness desires that they should be put in possession. This, his Highness trusts, the Honourable Court will be pleased to redress.

5th. His Highness has instructed me to solicit that your Honourable Court will transmit such orders to your Government in India as shall enable his Highness to carry into effect the resumption of the minor jagheers, on their present incumbents dying without heirs, as arranged by Mr. Elphinstone. His Highness can only, in such a matter, proceed in concert with the British Government, and such a fact may satisfy your Honourable Court that no resumption will be made except on the most justifiable grounds, and that nothing will be sought for inconsistent with the most liberal consideration of the interests of parties.

Lastly. His Highness, deprecating the recurrence of discussions between the British Government and himself—indeed, dreading their consequences—has desired me, as likely to narrow the field for misunderstanding, to propose to your Honourable Court that, as contemplated by the treaty, an exchange should

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Letter from the
Ex-Raja's Vakeel
to the Court of
Directors,
26 Nov. 1839.

should be made between the Honourable Company and himself, of all such territories as are intermixed and dove-tailed with the territories of each other. This would be most acceptable to his Highness, and would be easily effected, if undertaken in a spirit of kindness, and with a sincere disposition to free his Highness from the dangers to which he is daily liable, from at present being obliged to come into collision with the servants ever changing (and therefore not always perfectly informed of all the considerations involved in each case), of so powerful a government as the English.

Greatly indebted as his Highness feels himself to be to the friendship of the English Government, it has always been his wish so to deport himself, and to conduct his affairs, as to enjoy, what he prizes above every other consideration, its favour and approbation. He has never, however, allowed himself to fear, that he risked the forfeiture of these enviable advantages, by not tacitly yielding rights and privileges conferred on him by that government under treaty. On the contrary, whatever may have been the encroachments of your Government, he has always felt assured that your Honourable Court has never desired to annul or invade these rights, as well as that your Honourable Court will not be disposed to be dissatisfied with him because he appeals against the decisions of your Government in India. He, indeed, is confident that in proportion as the British Government is jealous of its own rights, it will recognize the propriety of his Highness being sensibly alive to all that is calculated to injure or detract from those that appertain to his government.

Of the good faith and justice of your Honourable Court, his Highness is fully satisfied; but his enemies are ever on the watch, and eager to embrace the opportunities which the occurrence of misunderstandings and discussions of the nature of those which form the subject of this despatch has too often unfortunately afforded them, to use all the diabolical arts of which they are masters, to foment and perpetuate suspicion and mistrust.

Having adverted to this subject, I cannot conclude this address without expressing my humble but full confidence in the English Government not proceeding to any measure condemnatory of his Highness, or injurious to his dignity and right, in consequence of the charges to which he has been exposed for now nearly three years (which have been gathered from all parts of the country, and from all descriptions of persons, but of which, however severely he has felt their effects, his Highness really as yet knows nothing, but by report), without first giving to his Highness the benefit of every facility in his defence; his persecutors, and prosecutors and accusers, being confronted with him face to face, and subjected to a rigorous cross-examination; in short, all those advantages in refutation of the calumnies to which he has been subjected, which his accusers have had in their fabrication.

Your Honourable Court is aware, that during the whole of the time which has elapsed since the commencement of his sufferings, his Highness has been deprived of all his usual servants and counsellors, who have been imprisoned for a long period, without having been at all subjected to any species of trial; and his Highness himself has been obliged to sit as if bound, without the power of taking any effectual steps for his own justification.

Disregarding the spirit, and looking only and in the narrowest sense at the letter of the treaty, the employment of agents without the express sanction of the Resident, to make known his case to your Government, has been considered an offence, and all their confidential correspondence with him has, either by the treachery of his own servants, encouraged by your Government and its officers, or by breach of trust at the post-office, which those to blame can state, been subjected to perusal, and even to having copies taken from them. Such are the hardships and indignities to which his Highness has been subjected. While so treated, he has been considered as a fair mark to shoot at, by every evil-disposed person in the country, whose enmity and malice, or interest, could in any way be gratified or promoted thereby.

But I shall not enlarge in this address on these topics. The considerations they relate to are too important, and the consequences they involve are too serious, to be disposed of in a cursory manner.

What I have said will shew the evil effect of discussions, and questions of right and fact, being allowed to exist for years; and will, I respectfully hope, now induce the Court the more speedily to give its consideration to the subjects which form the peculiar objects of this address.

I have the honour to be,
Honourable Sirs,
With the greatest respect,
Your most obedient, humble servant,

MEER AFZALL ALFEE,

Vakeel to the Maharaj Chutraputtee of Sattara.

London, No. 34, George Street, Euston Square,
26th November, 1839.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Letter from the
Ex-Raja's Vakeel
to the Court of
Directors,
26 Nov. 1839.

No. 2.

Translation of a Memorandum, No. 45, sent by the Resident at Sattara to his Highness the Maharaj.

Memorandum.

Dated 21st February, 1839.

A letter has been addressed to me by Mr. Willoughby, the Secretary to Government, under the orders of the Honourable the Governor in Council, dated 19th February, 1839, in which it is stated that eight Hindoos intend to proceed to England in a French ship, named the *George Cuvier*, and I am requested to ascertain and report, for the information of Government, whether they are proceeding on a mission from your Highness to the Home Authorities. This is therefore written to request your Highness speedily to inform me whether any persons are going on your Highness's part, and if so, who they are, and what are their names.

Translation of a Memorandum, No. 223, from the Maharaj Chutraputtee of Sattara.

Memorandum.

Dated 6th Zilley, corresponding with 21st February, 1839.

A memorandum has been received from the British Government, by the hands of a *chopdar*,* in violation of the usual custom, in which it is inquired whether any persons are proceeding to the authorities in England; in reply to which it is now stated that Eshwunt Row Raja Sirkey, Blugwunt Row Wittul, and Chitkojee Row Soowey were formerly commanded to hire a vessel and proceed to England, in company of a European, to explain the circumstances of this government to the authorities there, and that they are accordingly going, together with their servants, to explain our case in reference to the difficulties that have been created in connexion with the Jagheerdars' question. Representations, both written and personal, have been at various times made from this government, from the time of the Resident Colonel Lodwick, and the Governor Sir Robert Grant, up to this day, but nevertheless, malicious, low, and unprincipled persons were credited, and the respectable persons belonging to this government were seized, to the degradation of our dignity. A considerable time having since elapsed without our being informed on the subject, this government requested Dr. Milne to represent the whole of these circumstances, from the beginning up to this day, both in writing and verbally, and he has accordingly been doing so, to represent to Government. It is requested that all those representations may be communicated to the authorities in England. This government looks to the friendship of the British Government, and not to any thing else. Without caring for our life, and without believing Bajec Row, we appeared in the camp of General Smith, on a message from the Honourable Mr. Elphinstone, and in consideration of the just principles by which the British Government is guided. It is consequently necessary for us to make our representations, and explain our circumstances to that Government. A detailed account of the case, regarding which this memorandum is written, should therefore be laid before the British Authorities in England.

* A silver stick.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Letter from the
Ex-Raja to the
Court of Directors,
10 Nov. 1838.

TRANSLATION OF A LETTER* TO THE HONOURABLE THE
COURT OF DIRECTORS OF THE EAST INDIA COMPANY,
FROM HIS HIGHNESS THE EX-RAJA OF SATTARA,

*Dated the 21st Shaban Sun Teessa Sallateen, corresponding with the 10th
November, 1838.*

To the Honourable the Court of Directors of the East India Company, who give splendour to an Empire that may well be called Celestial; who administer its Laws, and dispense Justice to Nations. May their Mighty Power and their Conspicuous Humanity and Benignity endure for ever!

During the war between Bajee Row and the Honourable East India Company, the Honourable Mr. Elphinstone, through the medium of Nursoo Jamdar (Treasurer), invited me, at the time with the army of Bajee Row, to join the Honourable Company; I accordingly joined the army of General Smith, and wrote a letter to Ballajee Punt Nathoo, who was then with Mr. Elphinstone at Poorundhur, to say that I had done as requested. Subsequently to this, I had a conference with Mr. Elphinstone, who communicated to me his intention of sending Mr. Russell to the Governor General, and at the same time introduced me to that gentleman. The observations which on this occasion I made are known to Mr. Elphinstone. Thereafter, previous to the conclusion of the treaty, I addressed a letter to Mr. Elphinstone, who was then at Poona. To that letter Mr. Elphinstone replied that I should not hereafter be subjected to such treatment as I had received from my servant (Bajee Row); but on the contrary, after considering what was due to my high station and situation, the Governor General would place me in the same condition as other princes, and make an arrangement that would maintain the dignity of my family and promote my own comfort. This letter is dated in September, 1818.

Afterwards, when the treaty was received, Captain Grant (Duff) recommended me to place entire reliance on the English Government and sign it, which recommendation I immediately complied with. All this is known to Mr. Elphinstone and Captain Grant (Duff); and Mr. Elphinstone bearing it in recollection, after he became Governor of Bombay, added *Shaik Mera* to the Jagheerdars who were previously inserted in the treaty; and he also addressed to me a letter stating that those jagheers, which had been conferred by the Peishwas, and which were situated within the limits of my principality, would revert to my government, in the same manner as those within the territory of the East India Company would revert to that Government; as well as that, should any of my Jagheerdars die without heirs, their jagheers would lapse to my government; and while Mr. Elphinstone continued in India exchanges were, on my suggestion, made between the British Government and myself of territories situated within the Honourable Company's limits belonging to my Jagheerdars, according to an article in the treaty, which specially provided for such exchanges, in regard to adjoining territories, with a view to the more convenient administration of their government; and this was so arranged because the jagheers were in all respects considered the same as territories paying revenue direct to my government; for had there been any difference between them, such a stipulation would never have been made—besides which, it remained with my government to decide on all the complaints of the Jagheerdars.

Notwithstanding these facts, my enemies, by misrepresentations to the Agents of the British Government at Poona, have, on the plea of boundaries, caused interference with established usage. Having lent money to my Jagheerdars, they were induced to make such misrepresentations because they knew, that, while my authority existed, they could not hope to retain in their own hands the management of the territories of their debtors, nor to appropriate

* Which accompanied the address of the vakeels to the Court, dated 26th November, 1839.

priate to themselves and others, pensions and enam villages, or to realize such profits and interest as they wished.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Letter from the
Ex-Raja to the
Court of Director
10 Nov. 1838.

On the subject of these misrepresentations I addressed myself to Lord Clare, who, in conjunction with Mr. Sutherland, recommended that I should write to Mr. Elphinstone, Captain Grant (Duff), and Colonel Robertson, who were acquainted with all the circumstances. I accordingly wrote to these gentlemen, and having delivered my letters to Colonel Lodwick, the Resident, they were forwarded to your Honourable Court, who returned them to the Bombay Government, with a reply, stating, "That your Honourable Court did not think it expedient to be the channel of communication on Government business with individuals; and that, therefore, the letters were returned to be given back to me, with this explanation, that there was no objection to my sending letters direct to the parties; but that I might rest satisfied that your Honourable Court would always have pleasure in making itself acquainted with any affairs of mine proper for your Honourable Court to know; that the Jagheerdars in my territory were considered by your Honourable Court to be on the same footing in regard to me as those in the territory of the East-India Company to your Honourable Court's Government; and that your Honourable Court did not perceive that they had not been subject to my control ever since the time of the Peishwa; while, in the event of there being no blood heir, or adopted son, to succeed to a jagheer, the guarantee of the British Government to the Jagheerdar would then cease, and his jagheer lapse to my government; as well as that your Honourable Court's Government would not interfere as to directing the adoption of a son."

Such was the answer which was received from your Honourable Court; but it was contrary to the wish of the Governor, Sir Robert Grant, and of Colonel Lodwick, that the same should be communicated to me, and I only, at length, succeeded in obtaining it after much importunity. Such an answer, so very satisfactory to me, and shewing that your Honourable Court had been made fully acquainted with my affairs, excited a jealous feeling on the part of the authorities here, the effect of which was, that no arrangement of my affairs was made in conformity to the principles admitted by your Honourable Court, though I repeatedly reminded Colonel Lodwick of the delay that was taking place; and observed to him, that if, as the late Governor, Lord Clare, had returned to England, and been succeeded by another Governor, he, the Resident, should also go to England, an adjustment would never be made; and I added, that as I could not depend on receiving, in any given time, a reply from England, I was therefore most desirous to submit the whole case to the Government at Calcutta, as well as to the authorities at home. To all this the Resident replied, that what I said was quite true, but that he could do nothing but as instructed by Government. Subsequently, when the Resident was at Mahableswhar I represented, through Ballajee Punt Keeby, that if my affairs were not adjusted here, I should deem it necessary to represent them to Calcutta and England; in answer to which Keeby wrote to me, that "filth must be employed to remove filth." The letter was in these very terms. Now the term here used "filth," is meant to express "faults or crimes;" but who ever heard that recourse should be had to faults to improve conduct without reproach?

Such a letter having been written to me, was occasioned by the angry feelings, excited by my having brought to the notice of your Honourable Court, the discrepancy between the acts of your Government and its written obligations.

I afterwards had an interview with Sir Robert Grant, the late Governor, at Mahableswhar, when I represented every thing to him, and entreated that an arrangement should, at once, be made in conformity with usage and the treaty, or that I should obtain, in a certain time, an answer from your Honourable Court. I also stated that Lord Clare had, without disposing of the case, proceeded to England, and that he (Sir Robert Grant) might do the same, and

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Letter from the
Ex-Raja to the
Court of Directors,
10 Nov. 1838.

the Governors who would succeed him might object that they could not settle a business which their predecessors had been unable to accomplish. I also mentioned that Sir John Malcolm, when he found it necessary to write to your Honourable Court about his discussions with the King's Court in Bombay, procured your decision as soon as possible; but that although my case was obviously just, no less a delay than four years had occurred, without a settlement—that even the answer which had been received (from England) was not intimated to me; and that therefore I would myself be under the necessity of bringing the circumstances to the notice of your Honourable Court and the Governor General. Such was my communication to Sir Robert Grant; and I was induced to make it because my confidence in the Bombay Government was shaken. The Resident, Colonel Lodwick, was present at this conversation, and he said, before the Governor, that he had made repeated applications to the Government on the subject.

As I still continued unable to ascertain what were the intentions of the Government, and I every day experienced new difficulties in conducting the affairs of my government, I at length determined to do as I had said; and to apply to your Honourable Court.

After this the Resident, Colonel Lodwick, waited on me, and asked if I intended to send any one to England; to which I replied, that misunderstandings had existed for four years, and that no arrangement appearing likely to be made, I was preparing to send an agent to your Honourable Court, and that I would communicate when he was prepared to go. On this the Resident said I was doing what was improper; that Bajee Row's fate would be mine; and many other such disrespectful expressions. Subsequent to this the Resident sent for the agents appointed to communicate with him, and told them, that as I had determined to send to England, *I was to understand that the English Government was now at enmity with me*; on this I addressed a note to the Resident, but having received no answer to it, letters were in consequence being prepared by Govind Row Wittul to send to England; when, about two months afterwards, on the 7th of October, 1836, the Resident having drawn out his troops and artillery, and sent Keeby (his own agent) on before, waited on me, while I was engaged in my devotions (in which I was interrupted), and desired me to send Govind Row to him that he might inquire of him concerning some attempts to seduce the sepoys. I replied that there was no occasion to make such a stir as he had thought proper to do about the matter, as I should at once have sent Govind Row on being apprized of his wish to that effect. Govind Row was then ordered to wait on the Resident, who put him in confinement, on verbal testimony, and without any written proof of his guilt. This proceeding is entirely to be attributed to his having been engaged as above stated, in preparing letters for England.

Such was the course that was adopted; and it is fitting that an inquiry should be instituted to ascertain who were the fabricators of such calumnies.

Having acted thus unjustly towards me, this calumny (that of seducing the sepoys) was propagated by those who had done so, in the hope that it might so operate to my prejudice as not only to prevent your Honourable Court, her Majesty's Government, and the Governor General from giving credence to the representations of my agents concerning my grievances, but also procure a confirmation of all the injustice which I had received at their hands.

Before Mr. Willoughby, the Political Secretary to Government, the Resident, Colonel Lodwick, and Colonel Ovens, entered on the investigation of this calumny, I expressed my wish that some one on my part should be present during the inquiry, but this was not complied with; but after they had concluded, they sent for me to shew me their proceedings, when I requested they would give me copies of the depositions, and that they would, before leaving Sattara, inform me of the determination they had come to on the case. They, however, departed without either visiting me or giving me copies of the depositions; and I cannot say what they may have thought proper to do in secret.

secret. On my going at that time to the Residency, I gave the Commissioners a note, the purport of which was, to request that the English Government would impose its commands on me, to undertake some duty which might give me an opportunity of proving my fidelity and innocence; or require me to make over to it all my property, and see whether I would not surrender the same in good faith; or even assume my country till it was satisfied of my fidelity, and that I would offer no objections; since I only valued the friendship of the English Government, my dignity and character, and coveted nothing else. This note was dated 29th October, 1836.

**SATTARA
PAPERS.**

Letter from the
Ex-Raja to the
Court of Directors,
10 Nov. 1838.

Subsequently, on my sending the usual Dussera dresses to the Honourable the Governor, by one of my court attendants, I requested him to make a communication to the Governor; but the dresses were not received, nor was an interview accorded to my agent.

After the dresses had been kept for three months, they were sent back with a message, that the Governor was displeased.

Colonel Lodwick, the Resident, had personally stated to me that I was not to make any representations but through the Resident, and that I should write to him whatever I had to say, and that he would send my communications to such of the English authorities as they ought to be submitted to. Under this assurance I prepared a note of fifteen paragraphs on the 23rd March, 1837, and sent it to the Resident; but it was returned by him, with a message, to say, that if I would expunge all that it contained, except three paragraphs, he would receive it, but that he could not take it as it was. A new note was in consequence prepared. In this I stated that I possessed a note from Mr. Elphinstone authorizing me to make communications independent of the Resident, and that I had before made such communications through English gentlemen, as well as through an agent deputed by myself; that this practice continued up to the termination of Sir John Malcolm's Government, and that I had accordingly requested Dr. Milne, an English gentleman, to communicate on this matter, and to repair to me, to inform himself on the subject; but that now it seemed to be the pleasure of the English Government not to respect the authority quoted (that of Mr. Elphinstone); and as Colonel Lodwick refused the note with fifteen paragraphs, I sent it to Dr. Milne, with a letter to the address of the Governor, Sir Robert Grant, with instructions to give it to him. This, too, the Governor refused to receive, as well as to hear any thing about it. In consequence of this, I employed Dr. Milne to communicate, on my part, all that had occurred to your Honourable Court and the Government at Calcutta.

Subsequently, Colonel Lodwick was succeeded in the Residency by Colonel Ovens, who, at the first interview with me, requested that I would communicate on all points without reserve with him; and assured me that he would not follow the example of Colonel Lodwick; on which I begged if he should at any time entertain suspicions of me, or if any one should endeavour to prepossess him against me, that he would, after satisfying himself by written proofs, make the same known to me, when, should I be satisfied of the facts charged, I would not fail to punish any one who might be in fault; but without giving the least attention to this request, and without even previously communicating his intention to me, he, on the verbal information of my enemies, caused the following persons of my court, viz., Bulwunt Row Chitnavees, Dinkur Row Mohiteh Sena Kurte, Pudema Kur Ragonath Purarkur, and Rowlajee Naik Kaskur, to be placed in confinement, and otherwise subjected them to whatever he thought proper. Such has been the course pursued by Colonel Ovens. I therefore beg, that an inquiry may be instituted to ascertain how evil-disposed persons have fabricated false accusations against me. Were I to endeavour to inquire into this, no one, from fear of your Honourable Court's powerful Government, would give me information, for I could not afford protection to any one who would state the truth. On this account every one is paralysed with fear. Nevertheless, without any persuasion on my part, a few persons have ventured to come forward of their own accord, and

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Letter from the
Ex-Raja to the
Court of Directors,
10 Nov. 1838.

given me information; and if they were interrogated, your Honourable Court would understand how these calumnies have been got up.

Some of these persons have told me they could produce proofs of what they have stated, but as they and their informants had been subjected to imprisonment they have been afraid to do so; while others, from the same cause, have been prevented from communicating with me. I represented all this to your Honourable Court, as well as to the Governor General; but at such a distance, I cannot tell whether your Honourable Court, or his Lordship, fully comprehended what was stated. I endeavoured to make Doctor Milne conversant with the matter; and he also, repeatedly, made representations, but in consequence of the rule that I was not to be allowed personal intercourse, I have not been able to converse with that gentleman—and for this reason he may have misunderstood, and even misrepresented my affairs; I therefore hope permission may be granted for Doctor Milne to visit me.

Mr. Elphinstone is aware of what took place with regard to the Nimbalkur while Colonel Briggs was Resident. Mr. Elphinstone being then in the country, justice was done in the case; but had he not been in this country, and had gentlemen like those now in power been in his place, the same result would have been experienced in that affair, as now in others. In Mr. Elphinstone's time I was treated with courtesy, and the principles by which my conduct was regulated were known; but after the departure of Sir John Malcolm and Colonel Robertson, the Resident, I have experienced the contrary to be the case, although my conduct has in all respects been the same, and influenced by attachment to your Honourable Court's Government, from the days of Mr. Elphinstone up to this time. And yet it has come to pass that your Honourable Court's servants have been unable to distinguish the true complexion of my conduct; but no well-informed agent of your Government remains, so that, knowing nothing of the truth, they lend their ears, and give credence to any thing that interested men may tell them, acting as they list upon erroneous impressions, while every day they go on further and further in error; and it has become notorious that I have suffered severely from the treatment I have experienced.

The people of this country view me with hostile feelings, because I attached myself firmly to the British Government, and thereby interfered with the objects which they had at heart; owing to this I can only now maintain my position, through the friendship and support of the British Government; and the wish which I sincerely cherish is to avoid every thing that may, in anywise, tend to the injury of the British Government, between which and my family friendship has always existed.

Your Honourable Court having taken all this into consideration, can act as you see fit. Evil-minded and disreputable people, forgers, and liars, having conspired and given birth to all kinds of wicked machinations, endeavour to establish them as truths; but well-informed and honourable and upright men are convinced that I have done your Honourable Court's Government no injury, and never deviated from the most disinterested line in my conduct towards the Honourable Company. If due weight be given to these facts, the schemes of my enemies will fail. But if they are disregarded, then they will accomplish what they please. Great and just governments and experienced men must, on examination, admit the truth of these observations; and while they cannot hesitate to punish such evil-disposed and inimical persons, not only to maintain their own reputation for justice, but also to inspire general confidence, they will be kind to persons of high station, looking to their rectitude. Such in times past has been the practice of truly great and powerful monarchs, whose memory is justly held in veneration. The Almighty has now given the government of this land into your Honourable Court's hands, and I am therefore a suitor to your Honourable Court for justice.

If persons of high and ancient families do not forsake their honourable principles, and thereby entail disgrace on their reputation, it is incumbent to act towards

towards them accordingly; for such individuals when treated with high consideration by those possessed of eminent station and authority, are thereby the more confirmed in their honourable course.

Powerful governments derive great fame from acting on such principles, while to those who suffer from a disregard of them, death is preferable to life. Forgetting what is due to ancient lineage, and for ease and subsistence to yield to disgraceful treatment, is the part of base people, for noble persons can never resign themselves to any treatment calculated to detract from their good name. Every one of God's creatures is cared for by Him. On his providence I place my dependence, and I do not look beyond him. So let the English Government do whatever, on consideration, it may judge best. I have always conducted myself with a due regard to the high reputation of my ancestry, and therefore I rely that I shall continue to enjoy the friendship of the English Government. Your Honourable Court may rest assured I shall never act like others; I therefore entreat that I may be early favoured with such a decision on this appeal as shall preclude the possibility of my being constantly subjected to difficulties.

Having taken into my consideration how every thing connected with my situation may always be made known to your Honourable Court, I would suggest that, after the present misunderstandings are adjusted, in order to place your Honourable Court in possession of authentic information, permission be granted to depute agents, and to communicate in writing, to your Honourable Court. Unless such an arrangement be sanctioned it is impossible to foresee what may arise from causeless suspicions.

I entreat your Honourable Court to grant me a reply to this request, with the same despatch that would be used in disposing of any urgent case connected with your own interests, for I anxiously wish to be informed of your Honourable Court's sentiments on the subject.

A long time has now elapsed, and I have therefore deputed M. De Waalmar,* Eshwunt Row Raja Sirkey, and Bhugwunt Row Wittul to your Honourable Court, and they will have the honour of representing every thing to your Honourable Court. I entreat your Honourable Court to take their statements into your consideration, and to favour me with your decision.

I would conclude by reminding your Honourable Court, that your functionaries in this country have subjected me to great hardships; and that I have therefore employed several persons to apprise your Honourable Court of this fact. I think it necessary to state this to your Honourable Court, lest you should be surprised at so many having been employed. * The same facts will be stated by all, so that no objection need be started on that score. I beg that your Honourable Court's answer may be sent through my Vakeels.

What more can I say to your Honourable Court?

Scal of
His Highness.

LETTER FROM J. C. MELVILL, ESQ., TO THE VAKEELS OF THE EX-RAJA OF SATTARA,

Dated 14th Dec. 1839.

Letter from
J. C. Melvill, Esq.
to the
Ex-Raja's Vakeels,
14 Dec. 1839.

Gentlemen,—In reply to your letter of the 26th ultimo, and to the letter therein referred to of the same date, I am commanded by the Court of Directors of the East India Company, to inform you that the subjects of those letters have been brought under the Court's notice by the Government of Bombay, and

* His Highness afterwards resolved not to send this person to England.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

and that the Court's decision upon them will be communicated to that Government.

I am,

Gentlemen,

Your most obedient humble Servant,

(Signed) JAMES C. MELVILL.

To Eshwunt Row Raja Sirkey, Bhugwunt Row Wittul,
and Meer Afzall Alce.

East-India House,
14th Dec. 1839.

Letter from the
Ex-Raja's Vakeels
to the Court of
Directors,
7 Jan. 1840.

LETTER FROM THE VAKEELS OF THE EX-RAJA OF SATTARA TO THE HON. COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Dated 7th January, 1840.

Honourable Sirs,—We have the honour to acknowledge Mr. Secretary Melvill's letter, dated the 14th instant, intimating that the Government of Bombay, having addressed your Honourable Court on the subjects brought under your consideration by us, your Honourable Court would communicate your reply to that Government; and we hasten to inform your Honourable Court that this determination to keep us in ignorance of your sentiments on the appeal which we have preferred on behalf of his Highness the Raja of Sattara, has not only occasioned us great present disappointment, but may in the sequel be attended with much inconvenience, and on these grounds we beg leave respectfully to express our hope that your Honourable Court may be pleased to reconsider the same.

As the agents of his Highness the Raja of Sattara, we hope that it will be considered in no respect inconsistent either with your Honourable Court's authority, or with what we may reasonably claim (setting courtesy out of the question) from the justice of your Honourable Court, that your decision should be communicated to us, as well as to the authority in India, against which his Highness has been obliged to appeal.

We consider the adoption of this course as due to his Highness, even should your Honourable Court direct an investigation to be gone into in India; but should you be disposed, without further question, to confirm the proceedings of the Government of Bombay, we then think that even more is indispensably requisite. In such a case, which we can hardly conceive to be likely, the smallest concession which your Honourable Court can make to even-handed justice is, fully and unreservedly, to communicate to us every opinion of your Government, and every circumstance and fact which may by it and by your Honourable Court be deemed to make against his Highness, and to await the views we may offer on these subjects, and the arguments and information which we may be able to adduce before the transmission of your orders to India.

We cannot, it is true, supply the place of a fair inquiry on the spot, for *nothing but this* can fully unravel and expose the machinations and conspiracies to which his Highness has so long been exposed; but we feel satisfied that we shall still be able to do enough to convince your Honourable Court that the facts, arguments, and conclusions, on which your Government rests its case against his Highness are not unanswerable; and surely if apprized that there is even a likelihood that they can be answered, your Honourable Court will consider it due to your own reputation to not decide against our prayer for a full and impartial inquiry, without referring the whole case, as now before your Honourable Court, to our examination and scrutiny.

If,

If, in such a discussion, we may allude to any thing of a personal nature, we would say, that even in regard to ourselves, the course we thus consider it our duty to recommend is essentially requisite; for although the order of your Honourable Court should direct a just inquiry to be instituted in India, we shall, if they are not communicated to us, be obliged to remain in attendance on your Honourable Court till the receipt of orders from that country; whereas, if your Honourable Court should impart them to us, we would at once return to Bombay.

SATTARA PAPERS.

Letter from the
Ex-Raja's Vakeels
to the Court of
Directors,
7 Jan. 1840.

In thus submitting our sentiments on the reply we have received, we would add, that we do so with great reluctance, because, in every possible case, we wish to conform to the wishes of your Honourable Court. In the present instance, however, as an adherence by your Honourable Court to your intention to keep us in ignorance of your Honourable Court's sentiments on the important subjects under discussion might be productive of much detriment to the just rights and interests of his Highness, we should consider ourselves guilty of a great dereliction of our duty, were we to allow any consideration to influence us to conceal our opinions, and thus to induce a belief that we now are, or in the sequel are likely to be, in any respect disposed to acquiesce in the procedure thus contemplated by your Honourable Court.

We avail ourselves of the opportunity which submitting this communication affords, to supply an omission in our letter under date the 26th November last, in not on that occasion offering a few observations in explanation of some of the passages of his Highness the Raja of Sattara's letter to your Honourable Court, dated the 10th of November, 1838, which contained our credentials as Vakeels, and which we had the honour to submit to your Honourable Court with that communication.

In the first place, we would take the liberty to point the attention of your Honourable Court to the evidence which that address furnishes, of the consistency of sentiments and principles of his Highness, as evinced in the rejection of the only condition on which the Government of Bombay was willing to allow his Highness to retain his principality. In that address, which your Honourable Court will observe was penned so long ago as the 10th of November, 1838, his Highness states, alluding to individuals, whose honourable conduct comports with their high and ancient lineage,—“Such individuals, when treated “with high consideration by those possessed of eminent station and authority, “are more and more confirmed in their honourable course; while to those who “suffer from a disregard of the principles which such consideration suggests, “death is preferable to life. Forgetting what is due to ancient descent, and “for ease and subsistence, to yield to disgraceful treatment, is the part of base “people; for noble persons can never put up with any conduct calculated to “detract from their good name. Every one of God's creatures is cared for by “him; and on his providence I place my dependence—I look not beyond “him—so let the English Government do whatever, on consideration, it may “judge best.” We take the liberty to place this passage before your Honourable Court, as, written as it was, so long previous to the misfortunes that have lately overtaken him, it proves that his Highness's rejection of a mode of terminating the discussions between the English Government and himself, which would have attached a stain to his Highness's good name, and called in question his fidelity to his engagements, was not the result of any impulse of the moment, but of the fixed determination of his Highness, who, conscious of his innocence, could not be induced to yield his consent to any propositions calculated to impeach his reputation, either in the estimation of your Honourable Court, whose good opinion he prizes so highly, or of his own mind. At the same time, however, that his Highness acted on this commendable—this noble principle—he did not require that his convictions were to be received by your Government as proof of his rectitude, but begged that his whole conduct might be subjected to the test of an open and impartial investigation, to which his Highness should be a party, and offered to abide by the result. This, however, has been refused; and the authority which denied to his Highness's solemn assertions any credit, proceeded to the most extreme measures,

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Letter from the
Ex-Raja's Vakeels
to the Court of
Directors,
7 Jan. 1840.

on the secret, ex parte, and unconfirmed information of base and hostile persons.

His Highness also alludes, in his letter to your Honourable Court, to the fact that some of his enemies, having lent money to his Highness's Jagheerdars, have been induced, in order to free themselves from the check which his Highness's control imposed in preventing their alienation of the lands and revenues of the estates of their debtors—to which his Highness is the eventual successor—to lend themselves to the object of accomplishing his Highness's ruin. It is, we feel convinced, certain, that a strict inquiry as to how the question of the jurisdiction of his Highness over certain Jagheerdars came to be agitated (and was so perseveringly maintained, even after the orders of your Honourable Court), would shew, that it originated with Ballajee Punt Nathoo, a person who has occupied a prominent position in all the measures of persecution against his Highness; and who, finding his Highness would be a great obstacle to his designs on the jagheer of the Punt Suchew—to whom he had lent a large sum of money—first desired to withdraw that property from his Highness's jurisdiction; and subsequently perceiving that his Highness was not likely to submit to such an invasion of his rights, then entered on the course which has since been pursued. Accordingly, this person was at Sattara during the inquiry into the charges which were investigated by a Commission, consisting of the late and present Resident, and the present Secretary to your Government in the Political Department; and took an active part in the proceedings of that Commission. He has ever since, it may be added, remained at Sattara; and now he is the chief adviser, if not the Minister, of his Highness's brother.

This person, we think it necessary also to apprise your Honourable Court, had long, on other scores, indulged no kindly feeling to his Highness: for instance, he has never forgotten that his Highness did not constitute him his minister (which office he greatly desired) on his accession; and he has been long actuated by another deadly feud, in which all the Brahmins of the Deccan joined; and which owed its origin to his Highness having declined to prevent or interfere with the Prabhoo sect, of which Ballajee Punt, the expelled Chitnavces, is the head, from celebrating certain religious ceremonies, which the Brahmins assert, they only should perform. This refusal, caused on his Highness's part by a desire, which the then Resident approved, not to mix himself up in a polemical dispute, rendered his Highness obnoxious to the hatred of all the sacerdotal order; and to it, therefore, may be also ascribed many of the machinations under which both his Highness and the Chitnavces now suffer.

We would next offer a few observations on that passage in his Highness's letter, which alludes to what occurred while Mr. Elphinstone was in India, in regard to the case of the Nimbalkur jagheer. There was a dispute in regard to the succession to this jagheer, in which Colonel Briggs, then Resident, opposed the wishes of his Highness; in consequence of which, an agent was deputed to communicate direct with Mr. Elphinstone, who, on being thus informed of all the facts of the case, desired that his Highness's wishes should be carried into effect. His Highness mentions this case, with the desire of shewing your Honourable Court, that Mr. Elphinstone not only made no objection to receiving such agent, but, as is stated in another part of his address to your Honourable Court, authorized his Highness, in a written communication, to have recourse, when similarly requisite, to such a medium of communicating his wishes.

This conduct of the Honourable Mr. Elphinstone, we would beg your Honourable Court to contrast with that which your Government has lately observed towards his Highness, in not only not carrying out your Honourable Court's orders on the subject of his Highness's Jagheerdars, but refusing all communication on the subject, except through the Resident, although that gentleman had declared, "that he had made repeated applications to the Government on the subject."

We would embrace this opportunity to advise your Honourable Court that, by the last mails, we have received advices from India, that his Highness's papers

papers have been seized by your Honourable Court's officers, and submitted to a rigid examination. On this we would remark, that the very fact of his Highness's papers having been left behind, when his Highness could not but be aware of the fate that awaited him, and when he could have destroyed them all, is a proof that they do not contain evidence of guilt; and no doubt the result must have satisfied your Government of this fact. There may have been found among the seized records, the advice and recommendations of his Highness's friends, and evidence of his Highness's own plans as to how he should proceed, both to obtain redress for a violation of his rights and also to extricate himself from the painful circumstances in which he had been placed, without any fault of his own, because he persisted in requiring that justice might be awarded to him; there may have been found proofs of the exertions and anxieties occasioned by his being obliged to struggle with a powerful opponent, who, while it imposed no restrictions on its own conduct, or on the range or manner of its own investigations, in order to establish proofs of guilt against his Highness, looked on every effort by his Highness, in self-defence, as a crime; but we are satisfied that no proof of hostility to the English Government, either in *act* or *intent*, no breach of the *spirit* of the treaty, can be found.

SATTARA PAPERS.

Letter from the
Ex-Raja's Vakeels
to the Court of
Directors,
7 Jan. 1840.

We would further respectfully state, that we have also advices from India, which detail various acts of oppression over the servants of his Highness's government, all without trial, to establish guilt, by the authorities at present existing at Sattara—Ballajee Punt Nathoo, Abba Parisnees, Eshwunt Row Foudjar, and others of the cabal, whose machinations effected the downfall of his Highness, and who, as the managers under his Highness's brother, are now sating their vengeance, and already reaping the harvest of their villainies.

The hereditary office of Chitnavces has already been bestowed on Eshwunt Row Foudjar, as a reward for his share in the plot, although contrary to the custom in regard to hereditary offices, which respects the right of succession by lineal and collateral heirs, even if the actual incumbent should be convicted of treason. Abba Parisnees also has been entrusted with high duties, and many old servants have been removed, to make way for relatives and dependents of the conspirators, thus widening the circle of distress, by including in it parties, who, even were his Highness guilty, could have had no share in his treachery.

The directing spirit in all this system of oppression is stated to be Ballajee Punt Nathoo, who presides over affairs (as he formerly did over the cabal) as the chief adviser, or, as before said, the minister of his Highness's brother.

We leave it to your Honourable Court to decide whether it is even decent *that those who have by their plots brought about the degradation of his Highness*, should thus be brought forward in high office, immediately after his downfall, as it were to reward them for bringing that measure to pass. Appa Sahib, if not the chief, at least the chief tool of the cabal, occupies his Highness's station; and the principality is handed over to the keeping of the worthy partners in his treason to his brother, and his prince! With such advantages in prospect, it ceases to be matter of wonder, that no effort, however infamous, was spared, that was likely to bring them within reach. Of his Highness's brother we have hitherto avoided saying any thing: when, however, inquiry is conceded, it will be proved that Appa Sahib has long returned undeviating kindness with ingratitude, and has not hesitated to entertain treasonable designs, as well as to do all that was in his power, to give them effect against the rights of his Highness.

We pray that God may so guide the counsels of your Honourable Court, as to induce you authoritatively to require, that such an impartial inquiry may forthwith be instituted, as shall enable your Honourable Court to judge, on the clearest evidence, whether your Government had any warrant, either in justice or good policy, for the rigorous measures to which it has resorted. This is all we require, and we are satisfied that, this conceded, all the charges which

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Letter from the
Ex-Raja's Vakeels
to the Court of
Directors,
7 Jan. 1840.

which have been adduced against his Highness, will be dispersed as mist under the sun at noon-day.

We cannot allow ourselves to think that any consideration for what has been done, any aversion to disturb an order of things which owes its existence to the basest intrigues and most groundless suspicions, will influence your Honourable Court to refuse an opportunity to his Highness, to shew that your Government's good opinion should never have been withdrawn from him; nor, if he succeeds in doing so, to give him the most ample redress for the grievous wrongs he has sustained. The whole affair is in your Honourable Court's hands. Your Government's acts have no validity until sanctioned by your Honourable Court. The final responsibility, therefore, rests with your Honourable Court; and we feel confident your Honourable Court will disregard every suggestion, even remotely, calculated to interfere with your redemption of that responsibility, in such a way as shall exhibit your Honourable Court's preference of justice over every other consideration. The decision which your Honourable Court may come to, will, as has the act to which it will relate, be subjected to the severe test of public opinion in India; which, it would be easy to convince your Honourable Court, has formed a right judgment on this subject. Our countrymen are keen-sighted, and feel acutely in such matters; though your Honourable Court may seldom, at such a distance, be able to perceive this; and the public impressions, whether favourable or adverse, to any measures of Government, are, when once formed, not easily effaced. Public attention has been strongly drawn to his Highness's case, and we would respectfully assure your Honourable Court, that your good name all over India is involved in the determination you may come to.

Every one is aware, that your Government has been the aggressor throughout; that the evidence against his Highness has not only been withheld from him, but is *ex parte*; and that in one instance it is a notorious fact, that the name of the principal witness against his Highness has been withheld from the face of the proceedings on which his Highness has been condemned. The measures of your Government are open to many other serious and insurmountable objections, such as would not for a moment be permitted in this free country in the case of the meanest of her Majesty's subjects; of which, if any proof were wanting, we might refer to the trials for high treason now going on at Monmouth, and the fact of the counsel for the accused having taken an objection to the proceedings, on the ground that the prisoner had not been duly furnished with a list of the witnesses to appear against him.

On these grounds, we beg leave to renew our protest against the confirmation, by your Honourable Court, of the acts of your Bombay Government, and earnestly request your Honourable Court will be pleased to intimate to us at your earliest convenience the result of your deliberations on this our humble appeal for justice on behalf of his Highness the Raja of Sattara, as well as your Honourable Court's answer to his Highness's address of the 10th of November, 1838, agreeably to his Highness's request therein contained.

We have the honour to be,

Honourable Sirs,

Your most obedient humble servants,

EHSWUNT ROW RAJA SIRKEY, and

BHUGWUNT ROW WITTUL,

Vakeels of Shreemunt Maharaj Raja Shree Purtab Sew Chuttraputtee.

MEER AFZALL ALEE,

Vakeel to the Maharaj Chuttraputtee of Sattara.

London, No. 34, George Street, Euston Square,

7th January, 1840.

PETITION FROM MEER AFZALL ALEE, VAKEEL OF THE EX-
RAJA OF SATTARA, TO THE COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Dated 14th September, 1840.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Petition from the
Ex-Raja's Vakeel
to the Court of
Directors,
14 Sept. 1840.

To the Honourable the Court of Directors of the East India Company.

Humbly Sheweth,

That your petitioner arrived in this country in December, 1838, duly accredited by his Highness of Sattara, to bring under the consideration of your Honourable Court the unfortunate differences then existing between his Highness and your Government in India; but your petitioner did not address your Honourable Court for many months subsequently to his arrival, in consequence of assurances that Sir James Carnac would amicably adjust all the existing differences with the Sattara state.

The disasters which have since befallen the unfortunate Prince of Sattara, by his deposition from the throne of his ancestors; the seizure and confiscation of his private property; and the prince himself consigned as a prisoner to Benares, has had the effect of placing your petitioner in extreme difficulty, if not degradation, and almost want (were it not for the bounty of private friends).

That your petitioner feels called upon to declare, in the most unqualified manner, to your Honourable Court, that the statements made by the Indian Government against your petitioner, in reference to the Pacha of Egypt (as appears by the papers now made public), are without a shadow of foundation; for your petitioner can most solemnly declare, that he never saw the Pacha on his way to this country through Egypt; nor has he seen nor communicated with any officer in the Pacha's confidence; nor, to the best of your petitioner's recollection, has he ever heard the unfortunate Prince of Sattara mention the name, or speak of the government of the Pacha. Your Honourable Court may therefore imagine, that if any doubt existed on the mind of your petitioner as to the innocence of his Highness, it would have been fully removed by finding that these gross and gratuitous calumnies had come from the same sources of accusation as those which have led to the deposition and ruin of his sovereign.

That the extreme disappointment which your petitioner has officially met with in England, together with a residence in this climate of nearly two years, has so affected the health of your petitioner, that he is compelled, as the only chance of recovery, to return in sorrow to India; a step which, situated as the Sattara Government now is, your petitioner has not the means of undertaking, without your Honourable Court will considerably advance to him, on account of the Sattara state, the sum of seven hundred pounds (£700) to pay the travelling expenses of himself, secretary, and three servants; and to discharge certain debts that have been unavoidably contracted in providing necessities for your petitioner and his establishment; and which your petitioner had every hope he would be able to fully discharge, on holding communication with his sovereign; but even that, your petitioner understands, by his letters from Bombay, if not prohibited, is rendered almost impracticable. Your Honourable Court may therefore imagine the extreme difficulty in which your petitioner and his people are placed in this foreign land, by the recent decision of your Honourable Court.

In conclusion, your petitioner can only express a hope, that your Honourable Court will attribute any warmth of expression or difference of opinion set forth by your petitioner, to an honest conviction of his rectitude, for which he trusts your Honourable Court will rather be disposed to give him credit than blame; nor can your petitioner believe that your Honourable Court will cause him to suffer as an innocent victim to those changes in the Sattara government, consequent upon that exercise of your power, which has deprived your petitioner of every other source to which he can appeal for assistance. Your petitioner, therefore, trusts that your Honourable Court

**SATTARA
PAPERS.**

Petition from the
Ex-Raja's Vakeel
to the Court of
Directors,
14 Sept. 1840.

Court will render him that aid which he now prays for; and which is absolutely necessary, not only to enable him to return to India, but to extricate him from actual want and degradation in England. And your petitioner, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

میر افضل علی وکیل

34, George Street, Euston Square,
14th September, 1840.

Letter from
J.C. Melvill, Esq. to
Meer Afzull Alee,
7 Oct. 1840.

LETTER FROM J. C. MELVILL, ESQ., TO MEER AFZULL ALEE,

Dated 7th October, 1840.

Sir,—Your petition dated 14th September, requesting an advance of £700 to enable you to return to India, has been laid before the Court of Directors, and in reply I am commanded to inform you that the Court cannot take into consideration any such request, proceeding from one only of the individuals at present residing in this country, as agents of the late Raja of Sattara.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JAMES C. MELVILL,

Secretary.

To Meer Afzull Alee,

34, George Street, Euston Square,
New Road.

East-India House,
7th October, 1840.

Letter from the
Ex-Raja's Vakeels
to the Court of
Directors,
8 Feb. 1841.

**LETTER FROM THE VAKEELS OF THE EX-RAJA OF SATTARA
TO THE COURT OF DIRECTORS,**

Dated 8th February, 1841.

Honourable Sirs,—As the accredited agents of the deposed and exiled Raja of Sattara, we feel it an imperative duty once more to address your Honourable Court, in reference to those proceedings which have led to the dethronement and exile of our beloved prince, and to implore the attention of your Honourable Court to the few observations we are about to submit for your impartial and humane consideration.

The circumstance of his Highness having been systematically kept ignorant not only of the grounds of accusation, but of the points upon which his conduct has been arraigned, and that in disobedience of the Supreme Government of India, are clearly established by the printed papers,* referring to his Highness's deposition, and will satisfy your Honourable Court that, under such unheard of circumstances, it was impossible for either his Highness, or his agents, to offer one word in refutation, or explanation, on his alleged crimes.

The publication, however, of a portion of these papers, with others open to reference at the India-House, has disclosed to us a scene of the most corrupt and deep laid conspiracy, that could possibly have entered the imagination of man; a conspiracy which would never have succeeded had it not worked under the supposed countenance of the powerful British Government; that opinion being fully supported by those inexplicable proceedings, which we shall have occasion briefly to notice, but in doing which, we labour under the grievous disadvantage of having now no other sources of reference or information than the ex parte statements now printed, and which have been put forth in justification of those authorities, against whose acts we again confidently appeal.

The

* *Vide Governor's Minute 22nd November, 1838, para. 1. Printed Papers, page 276.*

The enlightened conduct of our unfortunate prince; his zealous aid in the furtherance of education, civilization, and the general improvement of his subjects; his character for consideration towards his Jagheerdars, with his strong attachment to your Government; are circumstances fully and recently recorded by your Honourable Court: * whilst the fact of the disaffection of that large and influential portion of his subjects called Brahmins, consequent on their lost political power, and religious feuds, with his Highness's declaration to the late Resident (General Robertson), "that he had no friends but the "English," are circumstances of which your Honourable Court, and your Local Governments were fully cognizant, long previously to any misunderstanding between the two states; † and are facts which rendered the support and countenance of your authorities in India indispensable to the administration of his Highness's government; but instead of giving the required countenance to his Highness, your Bombay Government was by the recorded decision of your Honourable Court "on the intent and meaning of the treaty," guilty of a direct breach of one of its stipulations, ‡ by forcibly depriving his Highness (after seventeen years' uninterrupted possession) of his rights of sovereignty over certain jagheers, thereby destroying the power and dignity of his government.

The natural consequence of this breach of faith on the part of your Government, its culpable neglect in withholding his Highness's appeals to your Honourable Court for justice, with the Governor's attempt to deceive his Highness regarding their transmission, § was that of proclaiming to the disaffected subjects and enemies of his Highness, the withdrawal of British countenance from his Government; and that the opportunity had arrived of successfully entering upon those conspiracies which had been anticipated and reported by your own officers.

The specific charges which Sir James Carnac has recorded against his Highness are three in number, and appear to stand in relative importance thus. ||

1st. Unwarrantable and treasonable correspondence with the Portuguese Government of Goa for a period of years.

2nd. That his Highness had intrigued with Appa Sahib the ex-Raja of Nagpore.

3rd. That he had countenanced attempts to seduce from their allegiance certain Native soldiers in the service of the British Government.

Your Honourable Court is aware that the last of these charges was the first put forth against his Highness; when after the attention of the authorities in India and England had been alarmingly directed to an imaginary confederacy against British power, said to be directed by the ruler of Sattara, your Bombay Government sent a secret Commission of three British functionaries to the capital of this independent State, to virtually try the prince, through the medium of his accused minister, and with positive orders that the accused parties should not be allowed the benefit of counsel on their defence. ¶

The partial finding of his Highness's alleged guilt (or, as it is termed, countenance in tampering with the allegiance of the Native soldiers,) was recorded by two out of the three members of this Commission, their judgment being principally founded upon the evidence of a Native officer, and a Brahmin named Untajee; and as a test of the purity of this Native officer's character and evidence, we beg the attention of your Honourable Court to the fact, that this person openly admitted before the Commission that he had been guilty of perjury by making a false oath, administered by his priest, under all its solemnities, with the view of enabling him to be a spy and performer in the alleged crimes of the Raja, a proceeding which, as expressed by your Government, was

* *Vide Summary of Court's proceedings, minute of (the late) Mr. Forbes. Printed Papers, p. 370.*

† *Vide General Robertson's speech, Asiatic Journal for February last, page 274.*

‡ *Vide General Lodwick's letter to the Court of Directors, dated 9th October, 1840, para. 42.*

§ *Vide General Lodwick's letter to the Court of Directors, dated 9th October, 1840, para. 22.*

|| *Vide Governor's Minute, 19th June, 1839, para. 1. Printed Papers, page 288.*

¶ *Vide General Lodwick's letter to the Court of Directors, dated 9th October, 1840, para. 36.*

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Letter from the
ex-Raja's Vakeels
to the Court of
Directors,
8 Feb. 1841.

only reserved for the purpose of being redovetailed, under the auspices of such an opportunity as now presented itself. The chief Native conspirator had consequently but to prepare his agents at each place to which he directed the Resident for information, that was invariably produced with a tact and dexterity that satisfied the cupidity of those authorities who had positively declared the *character of their Government* was dependent on the issue with the Raja; whilst his Highness's brother, a man of notorious character, and who at first was accused by this Brahminical conspiracy of leaguings in his brother's alleged crimes, was now discovered indispensable, with the view of continuing the Raj-Residency and Minister. He was consequently made to discover his prospect of a crown, pending on his brother's conviction. He therefore threw himself *as an accuser* upon the Resident's protection, where he was received with open arms; tents were pitched, with a British guard of honour for his accommodation, under the eye of his degraded brother and prince; and to consummate this unnatural proceeding, the unfortunate Raja was obliged to supply this treacherous kinsman with finances from his own treasury.

The Portuguese government of Goa, possessing a standing army of about *three hundred men*, whose late Governor, and alleged co-conspirator, had departed for Europe,—and the outlawed ex-Raja of Nagpore, whose denial of crime would command no attention, were the subjects selected as participators in the plot. His Highness was consequently accused of a treasonable intercourse with the latter unfortunate chief; whilst it is alleged (and a copy produced) that he had formerly contracted a treaty with the ex-Governor of Goa, by which 30,000 Portuguese were to drive the English out of India, with other statements too extravagant to obtrude upon your notice; with a view, however, of giving some character to their proceedings, and to remunerate their agents, it was urged upon Sir Robert Grant, who actually directed that rewards should be offered to those who would confirm his Highness's guilt;* while a petty state which it is said possessed some written proof of his Highness's disaffection, was threatened with British bayonets if it did not immediately produce that which never existed.†

To enter upon an analysis of the voluminous mass of fifty folios of evidence adduced against his Highness, which seems to have been obtained in quantity, with the view of mystifying truth and stifling inquiry, would, in our opinion, be an unnecessary obtrusion on the time of your Honourable Court; but we may here observe, that had such evil designs entered the mind of our unfortunate prince, who, your Honourable Court has admitted, possesses great natural intellect, and general information, is it consonant with common sense that he would have selected as his coadjutors, in a conspiracy of such magnitude, those parties who were worse than useless in effecting the alleged objects he had in view? There might have appeared some semblance of reason, had the alleged plots been in conjunction with any of the other powerful states, from whom assistance might be expected; but this would have exposed the conspirators to that merited punishment that was prudently obviated by making the coadjutors of his Highness's alleged crimes (in the intended subversion of British rule in India), an absent governor, and a powerless chief.

His Highness's alleged guilt, in connection with the ex-Raja of Nagpore, who is a fugitive under the surveillance of the Joudpore government, is founded upon an unauthenticated letter, said to be written by that chief to his Highness; and it has been most elaborately, though fruitlessly, attempted to be proved, that his Highness had sent an old sword inside a musical box to this unfortunate fugitive; these form the amount of accusations, which from their nature and magnitude (if even true) require no comment.

It is, however, the conspiracies with Don Manoel, the ex-Governor of Goa, that form the primary charge against his Highness, and which has called forth the laborious attention of your Indian Governments to establish as the acme of

* *Vide* Printed Papers. Governor's Minute, dated March 30th, 1837, paras. 8 and 9, page 76.

† *Vide* Printed Papers. Mr. Anderson's Minute (councillor), dated May 22nd, 1838, para. 8, page 207.

of his alleged crimes; this charge was first brought to notice, under the auspices of Colonel Ovens, on failure of the Raja's conviction by the Sattara Commission; and your Bombay Government, with the view to its substantiation, has produced the oral and written testimony of no less than *fifty-four*,* (said to be) sub-agents in the conspiracy; whose evidence in itself is so improbable and contradictory as to render it, in the opinion of any dispassionate mind, utterly useless to the ends of justice. But your Honourable Court will observe, that whilst this improbable number of sub-agents and their servants (in a secret plot of such magnitude) appear to have been easily obtained, there were but two principal agents (Nago Deorao, and Mahdeo Row Sirkey), who are alleged to have negotiated between his Highness and the Governor of Goa, and these two persons *had both died* about a year previously to the discovery of their employment; and it is alleged that the former had left amongst his effects, *the strongest evidence of the Raja's guilt*: in letters said to have been written on his death-bed to his Highness; but unaccountable as it is, it also appears that these death-bed productions, which are said to have contained a dying request to his Highness from the writer, and that on behalf of his family and friend then present, should be discovered about ten months after his alleged death, *in the Goa territories*, where he is said to have died, and that they should have been obtained in that place by a messenger *sent direct from Colonel Ovens, at a cost to your Government of four hundred rupees*,† instead of their being found in the palace of Sattara, whither the parties, still alive, would naturally have taken them with a certain expectation of realizing the requested favour.

Such is the nature of the extraordinary evidence upon which your Indian Government has consigned, *without a hearing*, the representative of a once great and ancient dynasty from the throne of his ancestors, to spend the remainder of his days an imprisoned exile; but although the opportune death of the alleged principal negotiators of treason between the Goa and Sattara Governments has been the plea for a less close approximation to the truth, it is fortunate for the ends of justice that the other alleged principal in the plot is living to bear testimony to his proceedings; whilst the well-known respectability of Don Manoel de Portugal e Castro, as a member of the Royal family of Portugal, and now comptroller of his sovereign's household, and who was Governor General of Goa during the whole period of the Raja's alleged intrigues, gives conclusive evidence that the whole is a tissue of falsehood, and fully establishes the existence of those conspiracies with which your Indian Government had been made fully cognizant, and which a careful perusal of the *ex parte* evidence alone would have infallibly conveyed to any impartial mind.

Hearing of the high character of this nobleman and of his presence at Lisbon, we lost no time in addressing him as follows:—

“To his Excellency Don Manoel de Portugal e Castro, (late) Governor and Captain General of Goa, Lisbon.

“Sir,—The highly important duties upon which we are engaged in this country, as the representatives of his Highness the ex-Raja of Sattara, who has lately been deposed by the British Government on charges of disaffection and treason against that state, and in which charges your Excellency's name is made prominently conspicuous, are circumstances that have emboldened us to address your Excellency on a subject so deeply involving the honour and happiness of our beloved prince.

“We take the liberty to state briefly to your Excellency, that our sovereign was deposed in September, 1839, by the Bombay Government for an alleged breach of treaty with that power; and one of the principal charges against him is, for secretly combining with your Excellency to subvert the authority of Great Britain in India.

“When.

* *Vide Printed Papers. Governor's Minute, dated May 5th, 1838, para. 28, page 125.*

† *Ibid.* page 163, paras. 209, 210.

SATTARA PAPERS.

Letter from the
Ex-Raja's Vakeels
to the Court of
Directors,
8 Feb. 1841.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Letter from the
Ex-Raja's Vakeels
to the Court of
Directors,
8 Feb. 1841.

“ When these facts became known, certain influential Proprietors of India Stock, being of opinion that his Highness was unjustly deposed, through the machinations of a conspiracy, carried a resolution at a General Court of the East-India Company, that the correspondence appertaining to the subject should be printed, and these papers now printed, testify that which is incompatible with common sense, by attempting to prove that his Highness the Raja and your Excellency had for several years held a clandestine intercourse, with the view of destroying the British Authority in India.

“ These papers affirm, that his Highness the Raja had sent clandestinely several missions to your Excellency, whilst residing at Goa and Vingorla, during your Excellency's government in India, and that your Excellency had sent a mission to his Highness at Sattara, under the direction of a person named Herculano, these several missions having in view the expulsion of British power.

“ That three original letters (which we are certain will be proved forgeries) to the address of the Raja bearing your Excellency's signature, are now in the possession of the Bombay government, and which letters intimate that your Excellency had communicated with your sovereign, who was making arrangements to enter on the plot against Great Britain.

“ They further state, that a treaty had been negotiated between his Highness and your Excellency on behalf of your government, a copy of which, from the late Sir Robert Grant's Minute, now published, is here annexed for your Excellency's information; and it appears by these papers, that your Excellency had received various sums of money, and presents from his Highness during these negotiations, and had arranged for sending to Portugal one of the Raja's subjects to represent his Highness's interests at that Court.

“ This is a very brief summary of the voluminous papers touching this one charge, with which we will occupy your Excellency's time; nor would a subject of less importance have induced us to take such a liberty, but we feel your Excellency's testimony alone can disprove statements, which although beyond the verge of reason or probability, are yet supported by every species of fraud, the ingenuity and object of which we will not venture to obtrude upon your Excellency's attention.

“ In conclusion, we feel confident that the high position your Excellency fills in your own country, with your well-known character for justice, will induce your Excellency to favour us with a declaration or statement, if there was any, and what intercourse your Excellency had with his Highness; which document we are assured by our friends and advisers will be of the greatest importance on the pending investigation of this case before the East-India Company, or British Parliament; we shall, therefore, hope that your Excellency may yet have the gratification of knowing that your unbiassed testimony in the furtherance of truth had the effect of restoring a noble and high-minded prince from a prison to the throne of his ancestors, and that other innocent parties, deeply accused in the alleged plots, had through your aid obtained justice. We trust in God for your Excellency's speedy reply, and have the honour to be

“ Your Excellency's faithful servants.

“ No. 67, Upper Berkeley Street, Portman Square, London,

“ 8th November, 1840.”

Not having received the expected reply to this communication, (its authenticity, we understand, having been doubted), we forwarded, through the medium of Senhor Antonio Rodrigues of Lisbon, a duplicate translation in Portuguese, dated 1st January last, to the ex-Governor of Goa, from whom we immediately received the following reply, addressed to the former gentleman to be communicated to us, which was done by the transmission of the ex-Governor's original letter, with its following translation in English, for the information of your Honourable Court.

Translation.

Translation.

"Most Illustrious Senhor Antonio Rodrigues,—Having received yesterday when I returned home rather late, the letter that you addressed to me, enclosing another forwarded from London, it was not consequently possible to answer you immediately, which I now do; declaring to you that I am totally ignorant of the subject of which the letter treats, and therefore am not able to say any thing relative to its contents, hoping from your goodness that you will communicate this to the persons who sent you the above-mentioned letter.

"Thanking you for your obliging compliments, I take the advantage of this occasion to do myself the pleasure to subscribe myself,

"Your's, most respectfully,
(Signed) "Don Manoel de Portugal e Castro.

"Calvario,
"18 de Janoario de 1841."

SATTARA PAPERS.

Letter from the
Ex-Raja's Vakeels
to the Court of
Directors,
8 Feb. 1841.

In this document your Honourable Court will discover, with feelings of painful commiseration for our unfortunate prince, the most unequivocal denial of any knowledge whatever of those circumstances relating to this principal accusation against his Highness, and that from the only person who appears left to speak positively on the subject, and the only Governor of Goa with whom it has been attempted to couple the Raja's name, but who having just left India with the probable chances of never being again heard of in that quarter, the adoption of his name was doubtlessly considered the most safe and plausible that could be introduced as the principal associate in his Highness's alleged crimes; a stratagem which would undoubtedly have succeeded, had it not been for the high family and character of this nobleman, which has placed him in the prominent position he fills under his own government, and consequently open to any further or more particular enquiries that your Honourable Court may deem requisite to institute, leaving it unnecessary for us to adduce further evidence of the existence of a conspiracy the truth of which cannot but be apparent, even without reference to that conclusive document to which we have called the particular attention of your Honourable Court.

We should, however, be wanting in duty to our unfortunate prince, did we not bring under the particular notice of your Honourable Court, the conduct of your Bombay Government during these proceedings; living as his Highness did for a period of two years, during which time, shame, as he terms it, prevented him from quitting the precincts of his palace, his ministers imprisoned, and even his subjects afraid to evince sympathy for their degraded sovereign, oppressed and insulted by that ally whose duty it was to have upheld him, and left without confidence or support, save in his own innocence. He consequently applied to Dr. Milne, an old acquaintance, and late a servant of your Indian Government, for his advice and assistance, a favour which was only permitted by a reference to the Governor General; and will it be credited by your Honourable Court, that after this obtained sanction of your Supreme Government, the subordinate authorities of Bombay *secretly and systematically intercepted his Highness's confidential communications** with his recognized adviser, but by doing which they only obtained proofs of the Raja's innocence, and his confidence in the ultimate justice of your Honourable Court.

The next evil which presented itself to his Highness was, that certain of his jewels had been stolen, and that others had been exchanged by the officers in charge of his treasury; an inquiry into which disclosed to him the fact, that his seals of state had, through the corruption of the conspirators, been placed at their disposal, and had been applied to papers which, it is understood, were produced as evidence of the Raja's guilt. His Highness immediately arrested and confined the treasurer and his two assistants, who, to escape their merited punishment, confessed their guilt. This transaction was, immediately

* Vide Printed Papers. Governor's Minute, dated January 25th, 1839, para. 1, page 277.

SATTARA PAPERS.

Letter from the
Ex-Raja's Vakeels
to the Court of
Directors,
8 Feb. 1841.

immediately communicated to the Resident and Bombay Government by the Raja, urgently beseeching them to institute an inquiry on the conduct of these men, whom he might have disposed of in the most summary manner; yet, to this request he never received an acknowledgment, it being regarded by the Governor, as expressed in his minute,* "*a fresh intrigue of the Raja's, with the view of aiding him in his defence;*" these men were consequently left in prison until after the deposition of the Raja, when, on condition of their disavowing their former confession to his Highness, they were released; one of them has, however, after obtaining his freedom, and doubtlessly under feelings of moral compunction, come forward, and addressed a letter, dated the 24th of June last (the original letter and translation of the same is here appended), to the ex-Raja's agent in London, declaring that he was privy to, and aided in purloining the seals of state, for the purpose of using them against the Raja, having through threats and persuasions been induced to perpetrate this act of treachery by Ballajee Punt, the now minister at Sattara, and his brother-in-law, Ballajee Punt Kebby, the Resident's confidential clerk.

The arrival of Sir James Carnac as Governor of Bombay, with the authority of your Honourable Court to settle this long pending difference between the two states, in which it was understood that Sir James whilst in England had considered his Highness an injured prince, naturally inspired the Raja with full confidence that he would obtain a full inquiry and honourable settlement.

It however appears that the atmosphere of the Bombay Council Chamber, where sat the same ex-Governor and Council who had condemned the Raja, the same Political Secretary who had been so frequently commended by his superiors for his able and lucid summaries on the Raja's alleged guilt, with the same Resident of Sattara who had performed the various incompatible characters before described, had driven from the new Governor's mind his preconceived opinions when calmly deliberating on documentary evidence as a member of your Honourable Court. The Raja's ruin was consequently soon determined upon; by choosing out of the three courses submitted by the Governor to his Council,† that which was the most speciously clement, but, to those who knew his Highness's character, would lead to his dethronement; some of Sir James's sinister advisers, being doubtlessly aware of the Raja's emphatic declaration to Colonel Lodwick on parting with that officer; *viz.* "I will surrender my territories rather than concede the smallest point until my grievances have been heard and redressed."

Sir James, on his advisers having, with an extraordinary power of prescience, anticipated the Raja's boldly asserting his innocence and demanding a fair inquiry, and having secured the pre-approval of the Governor General to the dethronement of the Raja‡ (if necessary, or whatever course he might deem it expedient to adopt), he proceeded to Poona, where, after some days' intercourse with Colonel Ovens, he left for the Sattara Court, accompanied (as his official secretary) by the same Mr. Willoughby who had performed so conspicuously in establishing the Raja's alleged guilt.

The result might have been anticipated; the day after his arrival, the Governor requested the presence of our humiliated prince, who attended in due submission, "*and, agreeably with the Governor's instructions,*" unattended by any one of his officers or adherents; when the following is the purport of conditions that were presented for his acceptance and signature.§

"1st. That he had been guilty of all the crimes, conspiracies, &c., that had been alleged against him.

"2nd. That he must act up literally to all the stipulations of the treaty of 1819.

"3rd. That

* *Vide* Printed Papers. Governor's Minute, dated January 11th, 1839, page 277.

† *Ibid.* dated June 19th, 1839, para. 3, page 289.

‡ *Ibid.* dated September 4th, 1839, para. 24, page 307.

§ *Ibid.* page 299, para. 21.

"3rd. That he must banish beyond his dominions Bulwunt Row Chit-navees, (the old, faithful, and hereditary state secretary of his government).

"4th. That he must provide with finances, on the same liberal scale as formerly, Appa Sahib (his unnatural brother, who had conspired against him).

"5th. That he must secure the salaries, pensions, and property to any number of his subjects whom the Resident might name (that had conspired and given false evidence against him)."

Your Honourable Court may imagine his Highness's dismay; he, in the most solemn manner, assured the Governor of his perfect innocence, and that the whole was a conspiracy directed by the principal Brahmin, Ballajee Punt; he implored a full and fair inquiry into his alleged crimes, and placed in the Governor's hands conclusive proofs of the misapplication of his seals (which was never noticed). The Governor attempted to reason on his conviction of the Raja's guilt, and again reiterated his demand, when his Highness declared he would never put his name to falsehood; that if the Governor would but institute a fair inquiry into the charges against him, *he would sacrifice every thing but his religion to meet his views*;* that the first feeling of his heart was to have an opportunity of establishing his innocence.

We submit to the feeling consideration of your Honourable Court, that such a strong and admitted presumption of feeling would have impressed most minds, if not with the conviction of his Highness's innocence, with the strongest doubts of his guilt, but the Governor's mind appeared prepared for what he had to encounter: he replied, that he had not time to investigate the matter; he was satisfied of the Raja's guilt, and if he did not agree to the terms, his dethronement would immediately follow. When our unfortunate Prince, seizing at the last shadow of hope, begged that the Resident (from whom he could expect but little sympathy) might be ordered to examine the evidence he would adduce in proof of the conspiracy; this was refused. The Raja persisted in his innocence, and fruitlessly beseeched inquiry. Finally, when no hope of investigation existed, his Highness declared that no consideration on earth would induce him to sign a falsehood.

The Governor consequently left for Poona to enforce the penalty of the Raja's disobedience, when, without further communication, "on the night of the 4th of September, 1839," his Highness's bed-chamber was forcibly entered by a company of British soldiers, directed through the palace by his Highness's unfeeling brother (now Raja), and followed by Colonel Ovans, when our noble and unoffending prince was seized while asleep, put into a palanquin, and, with a few devoted followers, was conveyed a prisoner and an exile from the dominions of his ancestors, because he would not sign a false and infamous admission of a crime which he had never perpetrated; a proceeding which is so ably and feelingly commented upon in the recorded dissent of your honourable colleague, Mr. Tucker, in the following words:—"Guilt would have found it easy to accept the conditions proposed, in order to escape from the threatened penalty. The consciousness of rectitude must be strong when it impels a man to make a great sacrifice to a sense of honour, however mistaken; and I must own, that I cannot regard otherwise than with feelings of the deepest commiseration that Hindoo, who could resolve to sacrifice a principality, to abandon his treasures, to relinquish his home, and to remove his family to a distant part of the country, rather than make a slight concession, which he felt must compromise his character."

To the minute of Sir James Carnac, we have naturally referred for some tangible grounds to justify his proceedings; but your Honourable Court will observe, that whilst this lengthy document of "forty-nine paragraphs" is speciously indicative of remorse, arising from the invidious duties it attempts to explain, yet its most striking characteristics are, those of special pleading against the Raja, instead of being the dispassionate explanation of the representative

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Letter from the
Ex-Raja's Vakeels
to the Court of
Directors,
8 Feb. 1841.

* Vide Printed Papers. Governor's Minute, dated 4th September, 1839, page 299.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Letter from the
Ex-Raja's Vakeels
to the Court of
Directors,
8 Feb. 1841.

sentative of a great Government when unwillingly enforcing a retributive penalty on a comparatively unimportant state. All the attempted proofs of his Highness's alleged delinquencies that we can discover in this document, are only Sir James's declarations of the Raja's general guilt; and when called upon by his Highness, he does not adduce, in support of his opinions, one instance of oral or documentary evidence that could be considered conclusive. Sir James further states to your Honourable Court, "equally unsupported by "proof," that no treaty will bind the Raja. Did we deem it necessary to rebut this charge, we would refer your Honourable Court to Sir James's dispassionate testimony when your Deputy Chairman in 1835; he then declared that his Highness was "*a model to all Indian rulers*;"* but the whole of his Highness's proceedings are opposed to the Governor's assertions; for your Honourable Court is aware that the only object of our mission to this country, was to obtain redress for the admitted breach of treaty by your Bombay Government; these were the only duties with which we had been entrusted, and to impede which your Honourable Court was implored by your Bombay Government, *neither to receive nor countenance us on our arrival in England.*†

The real offence, however, of our unfortunate prince, was his not subscribing to a guilt, which even had it existed, could on no principle of moral or political expediency have been required; and the effect of which could be no other than rendering him despicable in the eyes of his subjects, exposing his future government to every insult and conspiracy they might meditate against it, and denouncing the conduct of the British Government throughout India, as guilty of inflicting an uncalled-for degradation on a helpless and dependent ally. But we submit for your Honourable Court's consideration, what must have been the estimated amount of the alleged guilt that was to have been entirely obliterated by its mere acknowledgment, and which was to have rendered his Highness a fit and respected ally for your future government, it can be accounted for in no other sense than to secure a virtual indemnity for those unjustifiable proceedings just detailed, and which were well known to the covert performers in the plot, would be certainly realized either through the Raja's deposition or confession of his alleged crimes to save his principality.

The breach of faith on the part of your Government in the confiscation of his Highness's property, is another subject to which we crave your Honourable Court's particular attention; the pledge made by your Resident on seizure of his Highness, "that his peaceable submission would secure to him his private property and an allowance suitable for the support and respectability of himself and family," are conditions clearly stipulated in your Governor's letter to the Resident, under date the 30th August, 1839;‡ but in violation of these pledges, and of British faith and honour, the whole of his Highness's cash, jewels, furniture, and even flocks, were confiscated; an outrage never contemplated in the proclamation of his Highness's dethronement by your Government; and took place several months after he had been a prisoner in the custody of your authorities, and consequently, in person and property, entitled to the protection of its laws; but for a clear exposition of this proceeding, we refer your Honourable Court to the able dissent of your Honourable colleague, Mr. Shepherd.§

We are, however, commanded by our exiled prince to intimate to your Honourable Court, that his Highness's numerous sufferings and degradations under your Government, a part of which we have briefly noticed, are nought, to his mind, in comparison with the inhuman treatment he experienced on his journey to exile; particularly whilst under the authority of the Bombay Government. Your Honourable Court is aware that his Highness's principal companion to exile was his friend and kinsman, Balla Sahib, Senaputtee, whose

* *Vide Printed Papers.* Court of Director's letter to the Raja, page 370.

† *Vide Printed Papers.* Governor's Minute, dated February 22nd, 1839, para. 6, page 282.

‡ *Vide Printed Papers.* Governor's letter, dated August 30th, 1839, para. 8, page 390.

§ *Vide Printed Papers.* Dissent of Mr. Shepherd, dated September 2nd, 1840, page 389.

whose wife was taken in labour at the commencement of the journey, when his Highness's repeated request for a few days' halt was refused, when the infant and its mother were obliged to continue travelling: this led to the serious indisposition of its father, arising from a mind depressed by a complication of misfortunes; his illness increased, when his Highness again implored the officer in charge of the escort to halt a few days, which was also denied; when, dreadful to relate, the ex-commander-in-chief of the Sattara forces, and cousin to his prince, *was, at the close of the march, found dead in his palanquin*; the officer's justification, as communicated to your Honourable Court, being, "that he considered their request only an excuse for loitering on the road."* This admitted instance of criminal indifference to the wishes of our unfortunate prince will give a fair specimen of the tone and feeling that existed against his Highness, and of the humiliating and unknown indignities he has otherwise painfully endured.

These acts have, in our humble and respectful opinion towards your Honourable Court, consummated proceedings unequalled in the annals of British history in India, by a fearful sacrifice of that faith and character, whose moral influence, under Almighty God, has placed you the rulers of that great Empire: by concurring in these acts of your Government, you confirm proceedings alike repugnant to justice and humanity, which had their origin through the culpable encroachment and subsequent neglect of your Bombay Government, followed by its breach of faith and treaty with a helpless ally; and in extricating itself from the odium of its own culpability it employs parties, whose zeal was whetted and judgment warped, by the prospect of personal advancement; when its final consummation falls under the direction of a man, who, however amiable in private life, had not the moral courage to maintain his calm and deliberate judgment against the tainted opinions of his colleagues in Council; but who, when doubting the propriety of his proceedings, holds out (by not allowing the present ruler of Sattara an adoption) the almost immediate prospect of a large increase to your territorial revenue in India,† as a boon for the confirmation and indemnity of his own conduct.

But independently of his Highness's sufferings, we respectfully submit there are other grounds upon which the character of the British nation demands inquiry, with the view of ascertaining the principle of morality or justice by which it has elevated the present ruler of Sattara to a throne. The character of Appa Sahib has been long known to your Honourable Court; it has been commented upon by your Governor General, particularly exposed by Major Sutherland in his sketches,‡ and equally described by General Lodwick, previously to those misunderstandings;§ and lastly, he (Appa Sahib), acknowledged himself a conspirator,|| (against British power), to the same Colonel Ovens, who, as Sir James Carnac's informant,¶ expressed a high opinion of this confessed delinquent; and notwithstanding General Lodwick's letters just referred to (which must stand amongst the Sattara papers), Colonel Ovens declares that, after a diligent search of these records, he finds nothing against Appa Sahib's character;—inconsistencies only equalled by the fact, that the secret agencies which ruled the destinies of these two brothers, who were held equally culpable in their alleged conspiracies against British power, had the effect of consigning the one from the throne of his ancestors to a prison, and of elevating the other from disreputable obscurity to a throne.

In conclusion, we again, at the request and on behalf of our exiled sovereign, respectfully and earnestly implore that which the meanest of your countrymen

* *Vide* Printed Papers. Court of Directors' letter to the Bombay Government, dated September 2nd, 1840, paras. 3, 4, page 389.

† *Vide* Printed Papers. Sir James Carnac's Minute, dated September 4th, 1839, para. 26, page 308.

‡ *Vide* Major Sutherland's Sketches, page 165.

§ *Vide* General Lodwick's letter to Sir R. Grant, April 24th, 1835, printed in *The Times*.

|| *Vide* Printed Papers. Governor's Minute, dated May 26th, 1838, para. 7, page 232.

¶ *Ibid*, 4th September, 1839, para. 27, page 309.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Letter from the
Ex-Raja's Vakeels
to the Court of
Directors,
8 Feb. 1841.

countrymen can demand as their birthright, a fair and impartial inquiry into the charges your Government has preferred against his Highness; that the inquiry be conducted in India, by British officers, under the immediate direction of your Governor General, with such assistance as his Highness may require, is all he now implores. The specious reasoning of your servants, that an investigation would degrade a Native prince, can be no longer tenable when applied to an imprisoned exile. We feel that this brief explanation of our prince's sufferings, supported as it is in every instance by the official statements of your own officers, together with the existing difference of opinion amongst the members of your Honourable Court respecting his Highness's alleged crimes, would have been sufficient for the revision of your past judgment; but when supported by the declaration of such an authority as we have the honour herewith to submit, gives us the fullest confidence of obtaining justice, founded upon inquiry, and that it will not be unaccompanied by the expression of ultimate feelings of commiseration from your Honourable Court. Under these convictions, and with prayers that Almighty God may aid your judgment in the furtherance of truth,

We have the honour to be, Honourable Sirs,

Your obedient humble servants,

(Signed) ESHWUNT ROW RAJA SIRKEY,
BHUGWUNT ROW WITTUL, and
RUNGOBA BAPOJEE,

67, Upper Berkeley Street,
February 8th, 1841.

Vakeels of the exiled Raja of Sattara.

TRANSLATION of a letter from *Atmahram Luximun of Turf Heredras Mara*,
(one of the Assistant-Treasurers of the deposed Raja of Sattara), to *Rajeseey*
Sacram Bhow Sahib Raja Sirkey, at London.

Dated 24th June, 1840.

(After compliments.)

In consequence of the plot for allowing the seals to be put to letters, the Maharaja (Ex-Raja) put me in gaol, and after obtaining information desired me to write on paper what had actually taken place, and assured me that after I had confronted the other parties, I should be released; this did not take place, in consequence of the Raja's misfortunes, through his having been sent to Nimba (the name of the village he was sent to after his deposition). Appa Sahib (the present Raja) told Kesoo Eshwunt that the prisoners were of your party, and they had better speak to the Ex-Raja now to give them their release (meant ironically); but if they were kept in prison, he (the new Raja) would not pay their expenses; three of our party were soon released, but I was told I should not be allowed my liberty, and should suffer much till I had denied in writing all the truth I had before stated regarding the seals. Such were the intimidations presented to me. And although I felt that what I had written to the Ex-Raja was true, and known to our party, and to prove which I had been detained in prison eleven months, they still demanded me to contradict it.

I then feared that force would be used, and that my life would be in danger, and wrote whatever they pleased; but what I gave to the Ex-Raja is the real truth: and if inquiries be made where you are, we all (meaning the treasury's party) will prove it, and if you like you may show this very letter; but before you do so, you must try and secure protection against the authorities here (meaning Sattara). Bhow Sahib, as you are there (meaning London), I have written this, that you should not be kept in darkness; and I hope you will not make a great delay in writing to me, that we may know of each other; what the prospect of the times is must be known to you. What can I write more?

Dated Jaith Vud, 8 Saka, 1762.

(Corresponding to the 24th June, 1840.)

TREATY BETWEEN THE RAJA OF SATTARA AND THE HONOURABLE EAST-INDIA COMPANY,

Dated 4th September, 1839.

Treaty between the Honourable East-India Company and his Highness Shreemun Maharaj Shahjee Raja Chutterputty of Sattara, concluded at Sattara on the 4th September, 1839, by Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans, Resident at Sattara, on the part of the Honourable East-India Company, and by Eshwunt Row Trimbeck, on the part of Shahjee Raja Chutterputty, by virtue of full powers from their respective Governments.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Treaty.
4 Sept. 1839.

Article I.—All articles of the treaty of Sattara dated the 25th of September, 1819, which are not abrogated or modified by the present supplemental treaty, are hereby confirmed.

Article II.—It is hereby explicitly declared, that the Raja has no present or prospective title or claim to any territory situated beyond the boundaries of the Sattara state, as the same are laid down in the schedule dated the 29th March, 1826, annexed to the aforesaid treaty, as follows:—

“ The frontier extends from the Kishna and Wurna on the south, to the
“ Neera and Beema on the north, and from the western ghauts or
“ Siyadree Hills on the west, to the districts of Punderpoor and Beeja-
“ poor on the east.”

Article III.—In modification of Article 7 of the aforesaid treaty, and to obviate future disputes, the Jagheerdars hercin-named, *viz.*

1. The Raja of Akulkote,
2. The Punt Suchew,
3. The Punt Prithee Nidhee,
4. The Dufflay,
5. Nimbalkur,

6. Shaik Mera Waekur, are placed under the direct management and control of the British Government, their contingents and pecuniary payments, on the scale fixed in the time of Captain Grant, being reserved to the Raja.

Article IV.—The Raja binds himself to pay through the British Government from the Sattara revenues, such annual allowance as may be considered proper by the British Government for the maintenance and support of his brother, Maharaj Purtab Shean, the late Raja, and his family.

This supplemental treaty, consisting of four articles, being this day, the 4th of September, 1839, settled and concluded at Sattara, to be binding and permanent, when ratified by the Right Honourable Lord Auckland, Governor General of India.

(Signed) C. OVANS.

PAPERS RELATIVE TO THE GRANT OF ENAM LANDS TO BALLAJEE PUNT NATHOO.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

LETTER FROM THE BOMBAY GOVERNMENT TO THE COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Letter from the
Bombay
Government
to the Court of
Directors,
27 Jan. 1841.

Dated 27th January, 1841.

(Political Department.)

Honourable Sirs,—We beg to transmit to your Honourable Court, copy of a letter from Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens, Resident at Sattara, dated the 22nd ultimo, forwarding translation of a letter to his address from his Highness the Raja of Sattara, dated the 6th of the same month, stating that his Highness has conferred upon Ballajee Punt Narrain Nathoo of Sattara enam villages of the estimated annual value of eight thousand rupees.

2. The name of Ballajee Punt Nathoo is not, we believe, unknown to your Honourable Court, and highly honourable mention is made of his services to the British Government during the Mahratta war, in Captain Grant Duff's History* of the Mahrattas. This individual was connected with the Poona Residency from about the year 1803. In the year 1816, he entered into the Residency employment, and Mr. Elphinstone, in a certificate which he gave him on his proceeding to England, at the close of 1827, speaks in the following terms of his character and services:—"In the troubles which followed the year 1816, and in the settlement of the country, he shewed himself an able, zealous, and trustworthy public servant. He was my principal Native agent during most of the time I was commissioner in the Deccan, was consulted by me on all subjects, and gave me every reason to be satisfied with his judgment and fidelity."

3. In reporting the grant by his Highness the Raja of Sattara of the above villages to Ballajee Punt Nathoo, Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens states, that acting on the sound and judicious advice of this able and upright man, his Highness has introduced many wholesome reforms in the administration of his country, which, if adhered to, cannot fail of being productive of the highest benefit to all classes of his Highness's subjects; and observes that, as it would be a great satisfaction to Ballajee Punt to obtain the concurrence of the British Government to the grant in question, he trusts that he may be permitted to convey to him the satisfaction of Government on the occasion.

4. In reply, we have informed Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens, that we are fully sensible of the merits of Ballajee Punt, and of the services which he has, on various occasions, rendered both to the British and Sattara Governments, and that while we should be highly gratified to perceive that his Highness the Raja of Sattara rewarded these services by some such mark of his approbation as that above alluded to, still we are of opinion that it would be proper, before any sanction is given by this Government to the acceptance by Ballajee Punt of the proposed grant of these villages, that a reference should be made to your Honourable Court, in order to ascertain whether you entertain any objection to the arrangement.

5. We have directed Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens to make an intimation to his Highness the Raja of Sattara, to the effect above mentioned, and at the same time to inform his Highness, that we intend to make a reference on this subject

* *Vide* pages 411 and 412.

subject to your Honourable Court by the present steamer, and to solicit your early decision on the point in question.

6. In referring this subject for the instructions of your Honourable Court, we beg to state, that we entirely concur in the opinion which the Resident at Sattara has, in his letter of the 22nd ultimo, expressed of the merits of Ballajee Punt Nathoo, and to the zeal and integrity of that individual we may, in a great degree, attribute a knowledge of those proceedings which rendered so imperative the deposition of the late Raja of Sattara.

7. Ballajee Punt is a native of the Sattara state, but, as previously observed, he rendered essential services to the British Government. For these services he was specially rewarded by the Government of Mr. Elphinstone, who, with the sanction of the Government of India, conferred upon him a life pension of six thousand rupees per annum, which he continues to enjoy.

8. We are of opinion, that it is very natural that his Highness the Raja of Sattara should be desirous of himself rewarding the services which Ballajee Punt has, on various occasions, rendered to the Sattara state, but we have felt ourselves precluded from giving the sanction of the British Government to the acceptance by Ballajee Punt of any grant of the nature proposed by his Highness before we have been furnished with the sentiments of your Honourable Court on the subject; and as Ballajee Punt is stated to be in a very precarious state of health, we venture to solicit that we may be favoured with as early a reply to this reference as may be convenient to your Honourable Court.

We have the honour to be, with the greatest respect,

Honourable Sirs,

Your most faithful, obedient, and humble servants,

(Signed) THOMAS McMAHON,

J. FARISH,

G. W. ANDERSON.

Bombay Castle,
27th January, 1841.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Letter from the
Bombay
Government
to the Court of
Directors,
27 Jan. 1841.

EXTRACT BOMBAY POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

Dated 27th January, 1841.

(No. 528.)—LETTER FROM LIEUTENANT-COLONEL C. OVANS, RESIDENT AT SATTARA, TO J. P. WILLOUGHBY, ESQ., SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT, BOMBAY,

Dated 22nd December, 1840.

Letter from the
Resident at Sattara
to the Secretary to
Bombay
Government,
22 Dec. 1840.

Sir,—I request you will have the goodness to lay before the Honourable the Governor in Council the annexed translation of a yad, No. 275, under date the 6th instant, received from the Raja of Sattara, stating that his Highness has been pleased to confer on Ballajee Punt Nathoo enam villages to the extent of Rs. 8,000 annual revenue.

2. With regard to this communication, I trust I may be permitted respectfully to observe, that, although it may not, perhaps, be considered absolutely necessary to submit it for the special sanction of the Honourable the Governor in Council, yet, as I know it would be a great satisfaction to Ballajee Punt Nathoo to obtain the concurrence of the British Government to this grant, I entertain a confident hope, that I may be permitted to convey to this able and upright man the satisfaction of our Government on this occasion.

3. It is scarcely necessary for me to enter into a detail of the services of Ballajee Punt Nathoo. His name has now been associated with our own in the Deccan for about forty years, and during the whole of this long period of

SATTARA PAPERS.

Letter from the
Resident at Sattara
to the Secretary to
Bombay
Government,
22 Dec. 1840.

time, he has stood pre-eminent for wisdom, talent, and unimpeachable integrity.

4. But, although I feel that I am unable to speak of his worth as it deserves, I gladly avail myself of this opportunity of putting on public record the testimony of two of the most able of Indian statesmen in his favour, as the statements of both these great men, written with their own hands, and given to him on their leaving this country, must, I think, be admitted to be conclusive.

5. I feel as if it may be considered presumption in me to add one word to testimonials such as these. But having had the advantage of Ballajee Punt's assistance for four years, and having known him intimately during this period, I trust I may, also, add my humble tribute of respect and admiration both of his public worth and of his private virtues.

6. I may also, perhaps, be permitted to add, that, acting on his sound and judicious advice, his Highness the Raja of Sattara has introduced such wholesome reforms into the administration of this country, that, if adhered to, cannot fail of being productive of the greatest benefit to all classes.

I have the honour to be, &c,

(Signed) C. OVANS,

Sattara Residency,
22nd December, 1840.

Resident at Sattara.

No. 1.

Yad from the
Raja to
the Resident,
6 Dec. 1840.

**TRANSLATION OF A YAD (No. 275) FROM HIS HIGHNESS THE
RAJA OF SATTARA TO THE RESIDENT,**

Under date the 6th December, 1840.

(After Compliments.)

The late Teerthuroop Mattooshree Mahyee Sahib Maharaj considered Ballajee Narrain Nathoo as her own son, and his family as her own, and she always desired to provide for them, and to grant him enam villages to the amount of ten thousand rupees, consequently, certain villages have now been granted to the Nathoo of the Kummall to the amount of ten thousand rupees, but which produce a revenue of about eight thousand rupees. In order that this may be known to the British Government, this is written.

True Translation.

(Signed) C. OVANS,

Resident at Sattara.

No. 2.

Ballajee Punt Nathoo was connected with the Poona Residency from the time of Sir Barry Close, in 1803 or 4. He entered into the Residency employment about 1816, and in the troubles that followed, and in the settlement of the country, shewed himself an able, zealous, and trustworthy public servant. He was my principal Native agent during most of the time I was in the Deccan, was consulted by me on all subjects, and gave me every reason to be satisfied with his judgment and fidelity.

Bombay,
November 13th, 1827.

(Signed) M. ELPHINSTONE.

No. 3.

Bombay, 3rd December, 1830.

During three years that I have been Governor of Bombay, I have had ample opportunities of appreciating the character of Ballajee Punt Nathoo, and well,
in

in my opinion, does this distinguished native merit the confidence and friendship which he enjoyed of the late Sir Barry Close and of the Honourable Mr. Elphinstone. He has earned his reputation and his fortune by the services of twenty-six years' employ, during which his ability and integrity have been successfully exerted to promote the public service. I have employed him continually during my residence in the Deccan, and my tours to the southern Malharratta country and Guzerat. I have consulted him on all occasions, where the feelings and interests of the population and the operation of the acts of Government were concerned. I have found his information extensive and his advice honest and good. I am grateful for the aid he has given me, and recommend him to my successors as one for whom I entertain a most sincere regard as a private individual and a public servant.

(Signed) JOHN MALCOLM.

True Copies.

(Signed) C. OVANS,
Resident at Sattara.

MINUTE BY THE HONOURABLE THE GOVERNOR,

(Subscribed to by the Board).

Dated 9th January, 1841.

Minute by the
Governor,
9 Jan. 1841.

I entirely concur in the opinion which the Resident has expressed of the merits of Ballajee Punt Nathoo. I have had personal observation of his industry, zeal, and integrity throughout the late negotiation with the late Raja of Sattara, and it is well known to us, that to his exertions we may, in a great degree, attribute a knowledge of those proceedings which unhappily called for his deposition; at the same time, it may be observed, that the Raja of Sattara being an independent sovereign, is at liberty to reward service rendered to him of a character so important as that which Ballajee Punt has performed. He is a native of the Sattara state, though formerly he served the British Government with advantage to us and credit to himself. For this service he was suitably rewarded by the Government of Mr. Elphinstone, and then retired to his native country. Connected as he has been with the Honourable Company, it is but natural that he should desire that it had a knowledge of the grant that the Raja has conferred upon him before he takes advantage of it, and that he seeks its countenance.

But, before we give our sanction, though I am fully sensible of his merits, and would gladly see them recognized in the manner proposed by the Raja, I think it would be better to submit these papers to the Honourable Court for such early reply as may be convenient, which we may venture to solicit from Ballajee Punt's very precarious state of health, with our respective sentiments on the proposition.

The Resident should be directed to inform the Raja accordingly.

(Signed) J. R. CARNAC,
T. MCMAHON,
J. FARISH,
G. W. ANDERSON.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Letter from
the Secretary to
Government
to the Resident at
Sattara,
25 Jan. 1841.

(No. 530.)—LETTER FROM J. P. WILLOUGHBY ESQ., SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT, TO THE RESIDENT AT SATTARA.—
(No. 263 of 1841.)

Dated 25th January, 1841.

(Political Department.)

Sir,—I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 22nd ultimo, No. 458, reporting that his Highness the Raja of Sattara has conferred on Ballajee Punt Nathoo enam villages of the annual value of Rupees (8,000) eight thousand.

2. In reply, I am desired to inform you, that the Honourable the Governor in Council is fully sensible of the merits of Ballajee Punt, and of the services which he has on various occasions rendered both to the British and Sattara governments; and while he would be highly gratified to perceive that his Highness the Raja of Sattara rewarded these services by some such mark of his approbation as that above alluded to, still the Governor in Council is of opinion, that it would be proper before any sanction is given by the British Government to the acceptance by Ballajee Punt of the proposed grant of these villages, that a reference should be made to the Honourable the Court of Directors, in order to ascertain whether that high authority entertains any objection to the arrangement.

3. For this purpose, a reference will be made to the Honourable the Court of Directors, by the next steamer, and their early decision on the subject will be solicited.

4. The Governor in Council requests that you will be pleased to make an intimation to his Highness the Raja of Sattara to the effect above-mentioned.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY,

Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle,
25th January, 1841.

True Extract.

J. P. WILLOUGHBY,

Secretary to Government.

Letter from the
Court of
Directors to the
Bombay
Government,
7 April, 1841.

LETTER FROM THE COURT OF DIRECTORS TO THE GOVERNMENT OF BOMBAY,

7th April, (No. 8) 1841.

(Political Department.)

Our Governor in Council at Bombay.

Para. 1. In your political letter, dated 27th January, (No. 1) 1841, you inform us that the Raja of Sattara has conferred upon Ballajee Punt Nathoo enam villages of the annual value of Rs. 8,000, and that Ballajee Punt has requested the sanction of your Government before accepting the grant. This sanction you have not thought it proper to give without a reference to us, and you accordingly request our decision, expressing at the same time a high sense of Ballajee Punt's merits, and of his services to our own Government, and to that of the Raja of Sattara.

2. Ballajee Punt is a native of the Sattara country, and though a pensioner of our Government, is not in our service. We do not now feel that we have any concern with the favours which the Raja of Sattara may think fit to confer upon

upon his own subjects, except in so far as our general right of giving advice to the Raja might empower and require us to check any tendency on his part to a liberality excessive in amount, or directed towards notoriously undeserving objects, the reverse of which is the case in the present instance.

We are

Your loving friends,

(Signed) W. B. BAYLEY,
G. LYALL,
W. S. CLARKE,
H. LINDSAY,
P. VANS AGNEW,
J. BRYANT,
F. WARDEN,
J. W. HOGG,
M. T. SMITH,
J. MASTERMAN,
H. WILLOCK,
A. GALLOWAY,
H. ALEXANDER,
R. CAMPBELL.

London,
the 7th of April, 1841.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Letter from
the Court of
Directors to the
Bombay
Government,
7 April, 1841.

L O N D O N :
Printed by J. L. Cox and Sons, 75, Great Queen street,
Lincoln's-Inn Fields.

SATTARA PAPERS.

P A P E R S

RESPECTING

THE CASE

OF

THE RAJA OF SATTARA.

L O N D O N :

PRINTED IN CONFORMITY WITH A RESOLUTION OF THE GENERAL COURT OF
PROPRIETORS OF EAST-INDIA STOCK OF THE 17TH JUNE 1840,

BY J. L. COX AND SONS, 75, GREAT QUEEN STREET.

1840.

LIST OF PAPERS.

LETTERS FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF BOMBAY.

							PAGE
Secret Letter from Bombay	..	dated	15th September	...	1836	...	1
Ditto	ditto	..	30th November	...	—	...	3
Ditto	ditto	..	17th January	...	1837	...	5
Ditto	ditto	..	1st April	...	—	...	6
Ditto	ditto	..	28th —	...	—	...	<i>ib.</i>
Ditto	ditto	..	21th June	...	—	...	7
Ditto	ditto	..	19th July	...	—	...	8
Ditto	ditto	..	16th August	...	—	...	9
Ditto	ditto	..	19th —	...	—	...	<i>ib.</i>
Ditto	ditto	..	25th September	...	—	...	<i>ib.</i>
Political Letter from Bombay	.	..	25th —	No. 56	—	...	10
Secret Letter from Bombay	..	..	25th —	...	—	...	<i>ib.</i>
Ditto	ditto	..	21st October	...	—	...	<i>ib.</i>
Ditto	ditto	..	23d —	...	—	...	<i>ib.</i>
Ditto	ditto	..	27th November	...	—	...	11
Ditto	ditto	..	30th —	...	—	...	12
Ditto	ditto	..	28th March, No. 7,	1838	—	...	<i>ib.</i>
Ditto	ditto	..	25th April, No. 2,	—	—	...	13
Ditto	ditto	..	19th May, No. 3,	—	—	...	<i>ib.</i>
Ditto	ditto	..	21st — No. 5,	—	—	...	14
Ditto	ditto	..	1st June, No. 6,	—	—	...	<i>ib.</i>
Ditto	ditto	..	12th — No. 7,	—	—	...	15
Ditto	ditto	..	3rd July, No. 10,	—	—	...	16
Ditto	ditto	..	5th September, No. 20,	—	—	...	<i>ib.</i>
Ditto	ditto	..	7th — No. 23,	—	—	...	18
Ditto	ditto	..	5th October, No. 26,	—	—	...	<i>ib.</i>
Ditto	ditto	..	6th — No. 28,	—	—	...	19
Secret Letter from Mr. Secretary Wigham to } Mr. Secretary Melvill	..	..	6th —	—	—	...	20
Secret Letter from Bombay	..	..	24th —	No. 31,	—	...	21
Ditto	ditto	..	15th November, No. 37,	—	—	...	22
Ditto	ditto	..	1st December, No. 38,	—	—	...	<i>ib.</i>
Ditto	ditto	..	1st — No. 41,	—	—	...	23
Ditto	ditto	..	1st — No. 42,	—	—	...	<i>ib.</i>
Ditto	ditto	..	1st — No. 44,	—	—	...	24
Ditto	ditto	..	4th — No. 47,	—	—	...	<i>ib.</i>
Ditto	ditto	..	5th — No. 50,	—	—	...	25
Extract Secret Letter	ditto	..	19th January, No. 6,	1839	—	...	<i>ib.</i>
Secret Letter	ditto	..	31st — No. 11,	—	—	...	26
Ditto	ditto	..	6th February, No. 12,	—	—	...	<i>ib.</i>
Political Letter	ditto	..	20th — No. 6,	—	—	...	27
Secret Letter	ditto	..	25th — No. 24,	—	—	...	<i>ib.</i>

						PAGE
Secret Letter from Mr. Secretary Willoughby to } Mr. Secretary Melvill	...	...	25th February	1839	...	29
Secret Letter from Bombay	...	...	dated 7th March, No. 25,	—	...	30
Ditto ditto	...	...	14th — No. 27,	—	...	<i>ib.</i>
Ditto ditto	...	...	25th — No. 33,	—	...	31
Ditto ditto	...	...	10th April, No. 38,	—	...	33
Ditto ditto	...	...	13th — No. 43,	—	...	<i>ib.</i>
Ditto ditto	...	...	15th — No. 47,	—	...	36
Secret Letter from Mr. Secretary Willoughby to } Mr. Secretary Melvill	...	...	16th — O,	—	...	39
Secret Letter from Bombay	...	...	dated 8th May, No. 56,	—	...	<i>ib.</i>
Ditto ditto	...	...	12th September, No. 106,	—	...	40
Ditto ditto	...	...	7th October, No. 114,	—	...	44
Ditto ditto	...	...	28th — No. 119,	—	...	47
Ditto ditto	...	...	28th November, No. 128,	—	...	48
Ditto ditto	...	...	31st December, No. 134,	—	...	50

EXTRACT SECRET LETTER FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

Extract Secret Letter from Madras	...	dated 7th December, No. 21, 1839	...	51
-----------------------------------	-----	----------------------------------	-----	----

LETTERS, AND EXTRACTS OF LETTERS, FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

Secret Letter from the Government of India	dated 3d July	1837	...	55
Extract Political Letter from ditto	...	20th October	—	56
Extract Public Letter from the Governor General	6th January, No. 1,	1838	...	<i>ib.</i>
Political Letter from ditto	1st October	—	...	<i>ib.</i>
Ditto ditto	29th December, No. 24,	—	...	57
Secret Letter from ditto	...	...	...	...

DESPATCHES FROM THE COURT OF DIRECTORS AND SECRET COMMITTEE TO THE GOVERNMENTS OF INDIA AND BOMBAY.

Political Despatch to the Government of India, dated	13th June, No. 39,	1838	...	58
Ditto to the Government of Bombay	13th — No. 12,	—	...	<i>ib.</i>
Secret Despatch to the Government of India	22d January	1839	...	59
Ditto to the Government of Bombay	22d —	—	...	<i>ib.</i>

MINUTES OF THE GOVERNMENT OF BOMBAY.

Minute by the Governor	...	dated 12th September 1836	...	...	60
Ditto ditto	...	13th — —	...	...	<i>ib.</i>
Ditto by Mr. Edward Ironside	...	14th — —	...	...	61
Ditto by Mr. James Farish	...	14th — —	...	...	<i>ib.</i>
Ditto by the Governor	...	2d October —	...	...	<i>ib.</i>

LIST OF PAPERS.

vii

					PAGE
Minute by Mr. Edward Ironside	...	...	without date	...	62
Ditto by Mr. James Farish	...	...	without date	...	<i>ib.</i>
Ditto ditto	...	dated	4th October 1836	...	<i>ib.</i>
Ditto by the Governor	...	...	5th — —	...	63
Ditto ditto	...	...	10th — —	...	<i>ib.</i>
Ditto ditto	...	...	13th — —	...	64
Ditto ditto	...	...	25th — —	...	<i>ib.</i>
Ditto ditto	...	...	25th November —	...	66
Ditto ditto	...	...	without date	...	<i>ib.</i>
Ditto ditto	...	...	3d December —	...	<i>ib.</i>
Ditto ditto	...	...	30th January 1837	...	67
Ditto ditto	...	...	30th — —	...	71
Ditto by Mr. Edward Ironside	...	...	3d February —	...	<i>ib.</i>
Ditto by Mr. James Farish	...	...	4th — —	...	75
Ditto by the Governor	...	...	8th March —	...	<i>ib.</i>
Ditto ditto	...	...	30th — —	...	76
Ditto ditto	...	...	8th April —	...	77
Ditto by Commander-in-Chief	...	...	11th — —	...	<i>ib.</i>
Ditto by Mr. James Farish	...	...	without date	...	<i>ib.</i>
Ditto by the Governor	...	...	11th April —	...	<i>ib.</i>
Ditto by Mr. James Farish	...	...	without date	...	<i>ib.</i>
Ditto by the Governor	...	...	27th April —	...	<i>ib.</i>
Ditto ditto	...	...	without date	...	83
Ditto ditto	...	...	5th June —	...	<i>ib.</i>
Ditto by Mr. James Farish	...	...	without date	...	84
Ditto by the Governor	...	...	18th June —	...	<i>ib.</i>
Ditto ditto	...	...	without date	...	<i>ib.</i>
Ditto ditto	...	...	28th June —	...	85
Ditto by Mr. James Farish	...	...	30th — —	...	86
Ditto by the Governor	...	...	3d July —	...	<i>ib.</i>
Ditto ditto	...	...	3d — —	...	<i>ib.</i>
Ditto ditto	...	...	5th — —	...	87
Ditto ditto	...	...	5th — —	...	<i>ib.</i>
Ditto ditto	...	...	10th — —	...	<i>ib.</i>
Ditto ditto	...	...	12th — —	...	88
Ditto ditto	...	...	15th — —	...	<i>ib.</i>
Ditto ditto	...	...	21st — —	...	89
Ditto ditto	...	...	24th — —	...	<i>ib.</i>
Ditto ditto	...	...	25th — —	...	90
Ditto ditto	...	...	26th — —	...	<i>ib.</i>
Ditto ditto	...	...	27th — —	...	91
Ditto ditto	...	...	1th August —	...	<i>ib.</i>
Ditto ditto	...	...	15th — —	...	92
Ditto ditto	...	...	24th — —	...	93
Ditto ditto	...	...	24th — —	...	94
Ditto by Government	...	...	25th — —	...	<i>ib.</i>
Ditto by the Governor	...	...	30th — —	...	95
Ditto ditto	...	...	1st September —	...	96
Ditto by Mr. James Farish	...	...	4th — —	...	97
Ditto by the Governor	...	...	4th — —	...	98
Ditto ditto	...	...	5th — —	...	<i>ib.</i>
Ditto ditto	...	...	5th — —	...	<i>ib.</i>
Ditto by Government	...	...	7th — —	...	99
Ditto by Mr. James Farish	...	...	without date	...	<i>ib.</i>
Ditto by Commander-in-Chief	...	...	without date	...	100
Ditto by the Governor	...	...	7th September —	...	<i>ib.</i>
Ditto ditto	...	...	11th — —	...	101
Ditto ditto	...	...	14th — —	...	102
Ditto ditto	...	...	15th — —	...	<i>ib.</i>
Ditto ditto	...	...	18th — —	...	<i>ib.</i>
Ditto ditto	...	...	20th — —	...	<i>ib.</i>
Supplemental Minute by ditto	...	...	20th — —	...	105
Minute by ditto	...	...	20th — —	...	106

						PAGE
Minute by the Governor	...	dated 22d	September	1837	...	106
Ditto by Mr. James Farish	...	22d	—	—	...	108
Ditto by Commander-in-Chief	...	22d	—	—	...	<i>ib.</i>
Ditto by Mr. James Farish	...	22d	—	—	...	109
Ditto by the Governor	...	30th	—	—	...	<i>ib.</i>
Ditto ditto	...	30th	—	—	...	<i>ib.</i>
Ditto by Mr. James Farish	...	without date			...	110
Ditto by the Governor	...	2d	October	—	...	<i>ib.</i>
Ditto by Mr. James Farish	...	3d	—	—	...	<i>ib.</i>
Ditto by the Governor	...	4th	—	—	...	<i>ib.</i>
Ditto ditto	...	4th	—	—	...	111
Ditto ditto	...	4th	—	—	...	<i>ib.</i>
Ditto ditto	...	9th	—	—	...	112
Ditto ditto	...	without date			...	<i>ib.</i>
Ditto ditto	...	12th	October	—	...	<i>ib.</i>
Ditto ditto	...	17th	—	—	...	<i>ib.</i>
Ditto ditto	...	17th	—	—	...	113
Ditto ditto	...	17th	—	—	...	<i>ib.</i>
Ditto ditto	...	without date			...	<i>ib.</i>
Ditto ditto	...	19th	October	—	...	114
Ditto ditto	...	19th	—	—	...	<i>ib.</i>
Ditto ditto	...	28th	—	—	...	<i>ib.</i>
Ditto ditto	...	30th	—	—	...	<i>ib.</i>
Ditto ditto	...	30th	—	—	...	115
Ditto ditto	...	7th	November	—	...	<i>ib.</i>
Ditto ditto	...	24th	—	—	...	<i>ib.</i>
Ditto ditto	...	without date			...	116
Ditto ditto	...	9th	December	—	...	<i>ib.</i>
Ditto ditto	...	2d	February	1838	...	117
Ditto by Mr. James Farish	...	3d	—	—	...	<i>ib.</i>
Ditto by the Governor	...	without date			...	118
Ditto ditto	...	10th	March	—	...	<i>ib.</i>
Ditto ditto	...	10th	—	—	...	<i>ib.</i>
Ditto ditto	...	23d	—	—	...	119
Ditto ditto	...	without date			...	<i>ib.</i>
Ditto ditto	...	—			...	<i>ib.</i>
Ditto ditto	...	28th	March	—	...	<i>ib.</i>
Ditto ditto	...	5th	May	—	...	120
Ditto ditto	...	15th	—	—	...	184
Ditto by Mr. James Farish	...	without date			...	185
Ditto by Mr. G. W. Anderson	...	15th	May	—	...	<i>ib.</i>
Ditto by the Governor	...	15th	—	—	...	<i>ib.</i>
Ditto by Mr. James Farish	...	17th	—	—	...	203
Ditto by the Governor	...	18th	—	—	...	201
Ditto by Mr. James Farish	...	19th	—	—	...	205
Ditto by Mr. G. W. Anderson	...	21st	—	—	...	206
Ditto ditto	...	22d	—	—	...	207
Ditto by the Governor	...	24th	—	—	...	<i>ib.</i>
Ditto ditto	...	26th	—	—	...	232
Ditto ditto	...	31st	—	—	...	234
Ditto by Mr. James Farish	...	31st	—	—	...	250
Ditto by Mr. G. W. Anderson	...	1st	June	—	...	<i>ib.</i>
Ditto by Mr. James Farish	...	4th	—	—	...	<i>ib.</i>
Ditto by Mr. G. W. Anderson	...	7th	—	—	...	252
Ditto by the Governor	...	8th	—	—	...	254
Ditto by Mr. G. W. Anderson	...	9th	—	—	...	255
Ditto by the Governor	...	24th	August	—	...	<i>ib.</i>
Ditto by Mr. G. W. Anderson	...	25th	—	—	...	267
Ditto by Mr. J. A. Dunlop	...	without date			...	<i>ib.</i>
Ditto by the Governor	...	25th	August	—	...	<i>ib.</i>
Ditto ditto	...	27th	—	—	...	268
Ditto ditto	...	31st	—	—	...	<i>ib.</i>
Ditto ditto	...	5th	September	—	...	269

LIST OF PAPERS

							PAGE
Minute by the Governor	...	dated 6th	September, 1838	...	...	269
Ditto	ditto	...	25th — —	...	...	ib.
Ditto	ditto	...	3d October —	...	...	270
Ditto	ditto	...	3d — —	...	...	271
Ditto	ditto	...	5th — —	...	...	ib.
Ditto	ditto	...	13th — —	...	...	272
Ditto by Mr. G. W. Anderson	...	...	without date	...	...	273
Ditto by Mr. J. A. Dunlop	...	...	ditto	...	...	ib.
Ditto by Commander-in-Chief	...	...	15th October —	...	...	274
Ditto by the Governor	...	...	without date	...	...	ib.
Ditto	ditto	...	19th October —	...	...	ib.
Ditto	ditto	...	29th — —	...	...	275
Ditto	ditto	...	31st — —	...	...	ib.
Ditto	ditto	...	without date	...	...	ib.
Ditto	ditto	...	ditto	...	...	ib.
Ditto	ditto	...	22d November —	...	...	276
Ditto by Mr. Anderson	...	...	without date	...	...	ib.
Ditto by Mr. J. A. Dunlop	...	...	ditto	...	...	277
Ditto by Board	...	...	30th November —	...	...	ib.
Ditto by Governor	...	...	11th January 1839	...	...	ib.
Ditto by ditto	...	...	25th — —	...	...	ib.
Ditto by Board	...	...	30th — —	...	...	278
Ditto by Governor	...	...	4th February —	...	...	ib.
Ditto	ditto	...	12th — —	...	...	ib.
Ditto by Mr. Anderson	...	...	without date	...	...	279
Ditto by Mr. Dunlop	...	...	ditto	...	...	ib.
Ditto by Governor	...	...	12th February —	...	...	ib.
Ditto by Mr. G. W. Anderson	...	...	without date	...	...	ib.
Ditto by Mr. J. A. Dunlop	...	...	ditto	...	...	280
Ditto by Governor	...	...	13th February —	...	...	ib.
Ditto by Mr. G. W. Anderson	...	...	without date	...	...	ib.
Ditto by Governor	...	...	ditto	...	...	ib.
Ditto	ditto	...	17th February —	...	...	ib.
Ditto by Mr. G. W. Anderson	...	...	without date	...	...	281
Ditto by Governor	...	...	18th February —	...	...	ib.
Ditto by Mr. G. W. Anderson	...	...	18th — —	...	...	ib.
Ditto by Governor	...	...	22d — —	...	...	282
Ditto by Mr. G. Anderson	...	...	without date	...	...	283
Ditto by Mr. J. A. Dunlop	...	...	22d February —	...	...	ib.
Ditto by Governor	...	...	22d — —	...	...	ib.
Ditto by Mr. G. W. Anderson	...	...	22d — —	...	...	284
Ditto by Mr. J. A. Dunlop	...	...	without date	...	...	ib.
Ditto by Governor	...	...	22d February —	...	...	ib.
Ditto	ditto	...	1st March —	...	...	ib.
Ditto by Board	...	...	without date	...	...	ib.
Ditto by Mr. G. W. Anderson	...	...	ditto	...	...	285
Ditto by Governor	...	...	1st March —	...	...	ib.
Ditto	ditto	...	2d — —	...	...	ib.
Ditto by Mr. G. W. Anderson	...	...	2d — —	...	...	286
Ditto by Governor	...	...	2d — —	...	...	ib.
Ditto by Mr. G. W. Anderson	...	...	without date	...	...	ib.
Ditto by Board	...	...	ditto	...	...	ib.
Ditto by Governor	...	...	4th March —	...	...	ib.
Ditto	ditto	...	11th — —	...	...	287
Ditto by Mr. G. W. Anderson	...	...	without date	...	...	ib.
Ditto by Governor	...	...	14th March —	...	...	ib.
Ditto by Board	...	...	18th — —	...	...	ib.
Ditto	ditto	...	19th — —	...	...	ib.
Ditto	ditto	...	20th — —	...	...	288
Ditto by Governor	...	...	27th — —	...	...	ib.
Ditto	ditto	...	30th — —	...	...	ib.
Ditto	ditto	...	19th June —	...	...	ib.
Ditto by Mr. James Farish	...	...	19th — —	...	...	291

LIST OF PAPERS.

	PAGE
Minute by Mr. G. W. Anderson ... dated 19th June 1839 ...	291
Ditto by Governor ... 20th ...	<i>ib.</i>
Ditto by Mr. J. Farish ... 21st ...	294
Ditto by Mr. G. W. Anderson ... 21st ...	<i>ib.</i>
Ditto by the Governor ... 22d ...	<i>ib.</i>
Ditto by Mr. J. Farish and Mr. G. W. Anderson ... 22d ...	<i>ib.</i>
Ditto by the Governor ... 24th July ...	295
Ditto ditto ... 4th September ...	<i>ib.</i>
Ditto ditto ... 7th ...	315
Ditto by Mr. J. Farish ... 9th ...	316
Ditto by Mr. G. W. Anderson ... 10th ...	317
Ditto by the Governor ... 27th ...	318
Ditto ditto ... 1st October ...	319
Ditto ditto ... 2d November ...	321
Ditto ditto ... 11th ...	322
Ditto ditto ... 12th ...	<i>ib.</i>
Ditto ditto ... 18th ...	323
Ditto ditto ... 20th ...	<i>ib.</i>
Ditto ditto ... 25th ...	<i>ib.</i>
Ditto ditto ... 28th ...	326
Ditto ditto ... 29th ...	327
Ditto by Mr. G. W. Anderson ... 29th ...	328
Ditto by Mr. J. Farish ... 3d December ...	<i>ib.</i>
Ditto by Mr. G. W. Anderson ... 4th ...	<i>ib.</i>

MINUTES OF THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

Minute by the Governor General ... dated 29th April 1837 ...	330
Ditto by Mr. H. Shakespear ... 11th May ...	331
Ditto by the Governor General ... 20th ...	333
Ditto ditto ... 23d December 1838 ...	334
Ditto ditto ... 29th ...	337
Ditto by Mr. T. C. Robertson ... 8th March 1839 ...	338
Ditto ditto ... 9th April ...	343
Ditto by Mr. W. W. Bird ... 11th ...	344
Ditto by Colonel W. Morison ... 25th ...	345

PROCEEDINGS OF THE COURT OF DIRECTORS, WITH PAPERS RECORDED BY INDIVIDUAL DIRECTORS.

Minute of the Court of Directors ... dated 25th March 1840 ...	347
Ditto ditto ... 1st April ...	<i>ib.</i>
Political Despatch to Governor General of India ... 1st — No. 15 ...	<i>ib.</i>
in Council ...	
Minute of the Court of Directors ... 1st — ...	350
Dissent by Henry St. George Tucker, Esq. ... 1st — ...	<i>ib.</i>
Minute of the Court of Directors ... 7th — ...	356
Dissent by John Cotton, Esq. ... 7th — ...	<i>ib.</i>
Ditto John Shepherd, Esq. ... 4th — ...	357
Minute of the Court of Directors ... 8th — ...	358
Dissent by John Forbes, Esq. ... 8th — ...	<i>ib.</i>
Minute of the Court of Directors ... 24th — ...	372
Letter from N. B. Edmonstone, Esq. ... 20th — ...	<i>ib.</i>
Observations by ditto ... 20th — ...	373
Minute of the Court of Directors ... 29th — ...	378

LIST OF PAPERS.

xi

					PAGE
Letter from W. Astell, W. S. Clarke, Esqrs., Sir R. Campbell, Bart., J. Thornhill, H. Alex- ander, Esqrs, Sir R. Jenkins, J. Masterman, F. Warden, Esqrs., and Sir H. Willock ...	}	25th April	1840	...	...
Minute of the Court of Directors ...					
Letter from Russell Ellice, Esq. ...					
Minute of the Court of Directors ...		13th May	—	...	379
Letter from Russell Ellice, Esq. ...		7th —	—	...	<i>ib.</i>

(Signed)

T. L. PEACOCK,
Examiner of India Correspondence.

East-India House,
Sept. 30th, 1840.

SUPPLEMENTARY PAPERS.

Secret Letter from Bombay ...	...	dated 29th January	1840	...	383
Extract Secret Letter from Bombay ...	...	28th February	No. 9 —	...	385
Secret Letter from Bombay ...	...	30th April	No. 13 —	...	386
Ditto ditto from Governor-general ...	...	13th January	No. 3 —	...	388
Proceedings of the Court of Directors ...	...	26th August	—	...	<i>ib.</i>
Extract Political Despatch to Government of Bombay	...	2d September, No. 16	—	...	<i>ib.</i>
Proceedings of the Court of Directors ...	...	2d —	—	...	<i>ib.</i>
Dissent of John Shepherd, Esq. ...	...	29th August	—	...	389

AT A
GENERAL COURT

OF THE
EAST-INDIA COMPANY,

Held on Wednesday, the 17th June 1840,

IT WAS

RESOLVED, That the Despatches of the Governments of India and of the Court of Directors, with the Minutes recorded by Members of the Government abroad, and by Members of the Court of Directors, in the case of the Raja of Sattara, be printed for the use of the Proprietors.

SATTARA PAPERS.

LETTERS FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF BOMBAY.*

SECRET LETTER FROM BOMBAY,

Dated 15th September 1836.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Secret Letter from
Bombay,
15 Sept. 1836.

1. We deeply regret to report to your Honourable Committee, that we have received intelligence of a conspiracy existing at Sattara, and, as is alleged, at several other Native Courts in India, to seduce our Native troops from their allegiance, with the ultimate design, by a combined effort, to subvert the British Empire in India.

2. As the steamer *Hugh Lindsay*, by which we transmit this letter, will leave Bombay with the Overland Mail to-morrow, we regret our inability to furnish your Honourable Committee with copies of all the letters we have received from the Resident at Sattara on the subject of this important event. We are obliged to confine ourselves, in our present report, to furnishing a general outline of the intelligence as yet conveyed to us, and to reporting the measures we have adopted to meet the approaching crisis.

3. In the first place, we request the attention of your Honourable Committee to the enclosed copy of a letter we addressed to the Government of India, under date the 12th ultimo, which will be found to contain all the intelligence we have received up to that date, and likewise a summary of our proceedings in consequence, and which, we are happy to state, have been approved of by the Right Honourable the Governor General of India in Council.

4. No further intelligence of consequence was received until yesterday, when, in a letter dated the 10th instant, the Resident at Sattara communicated to us some further important information, obtained through the two Native officers who first denounced the plot, and which, we deeply lament to state, scarcely leaves a doubt that his Highness the Raja of Sattara has proved faithless to his engagements with the British Government, and that he is, at this moment, in league with other powers to subvert our authority in this country.

5. On the evening of the 7th instant the Resident requested an interview with his Highness for the transaction of ordinary business. This being granted, Colonel Lodwick proceeded to the palace; but having previously ascertained that the two Native officers, alluded to in our communication to the Government of India, had been invited to an interview with the Raja, he instructed them to accept the invitation.

6. At the interview with his Highness, the Resident thought he observed a slight confusion on his countenance, which, however, gradually disappeared, when business was entered upon.

7. The

* Some letters and passages in this division are omitted, as relating to the conduct of individuals, but not bearing on the charges or evidence against the Raja. The letters and passages so omitted are indicated by asterisks.

SATTARA
PAPERS,

Secret Letter from
Bombay,
15 Sept. 1836.

7. The next evening (the 9th instant) it was reported to the Resident, that a meeting between the two Native officers and the Raja had actually taken place. We beg to refer your Honourable Committee, for information respecting the conversation which passed between the parties, to the depositions subsequently taken from the Native officers, and transmitted to us in Colonel Lodwick's letter of the 10th instant.

8. The Resident reports, that these depositions were taken separately, and that full reliance may be placed on their accuracy, not only from the respectability of the parties, but likewise from corroborating circumstances within his knowledge.

9. The depositions are not so full in details as we could desire, and do not contain clear information respecting what Native Courts are in league with the Raja. After having, however, succeeded, as he supposed, in seducing the Native officers from their allegiance, both of them represent that his Highness observed, "These infidels of Christians have taken all our country and wealth; now I am making arrangements for their overthrow, and wish to tell you of the four following points.

"1st. When there is a rising or fight at Belasore, I will give you notice.

"2d. When a disturbance takes place in Bombay, I will give you warning.

"3d. When the Mogul army marches from Hyderabad towards Sattara, I will also give you notice.

"4th. When the Hindoostan army arrives on this side the Nerbudda, I will give you notice.

"Remember these four things. If any other disturbances take place in other parts of the country, take no notice of them; I am only concerned in those I have mentioned to you. I have been making arrangements for the above business for the last six months."

10. We cannot, for one moment, suppose that his Highness the Raja of Sattara would have embarked in a design like that indicated in his conversation with the Native officers, unless he felt quite confident of being powerfully supported by the other Native Governments. Your Honourable Committee are aware that the Government of Sattara is one of our own creation, and that the present Raja was raised by us from a prison to a throne. His revenues do not exceed fourteen lacs of rupees per annum, and his military resources are contemptible and totally inadequate for the enterprize he has undertaken. We must, therefore, believe that he is associated with other powers anxiously desiring to shake off our rule; and we infer, that he looks to his Highness the Nizam, Scindia, and other Native chiefs, to declare against us, when their plans have been brought to maturity.

11. Your Honourable Committee will perceive, that we do not consider the time has yet arrived for striking a blow against the conspiracy alleged to be in progress. We have no reason whatever to doubt the fidelity of our Native armies: on the contrary, we feel every confidence that, should any of the Native Governments resort to hostilities (deeply as we shall lament this infatuation), we shall experience no difficulty in resisting their aggressions. Under these impressions, we have instructed the Resident at Sattara to adopt no measure that would indicate our knowledge of what was in progress, but to continue endeavouring to elicit further information regarding the parties in league against us, until he is convinced that secrecy can be no longer maintained.

12. We have not yet determined what course to pursue towards his Highness the Raja, whose treachery and infidelity towards us is the more inexcusable, from the benefits that have been heaped upon him by the British Government. The Government of India, as well as that of Agra, have been duly advised of all the information we have as yet obtained, and your Honourable Committee may rest assured that we shall exercise every precaution, and the most watchful vigilance, to meet and resist whatever attempts may be made to undermine our authority over the millions which Providence has vouchsafed to consign to our charge.

13. A complete set of our proceedings will be transmitted to your Honourable Committee by an early opportunity, together with such further information as may in the course of events transpire.

We have, &c.

(Signed)

E. IRONSIDE,
J. FARISH.

Bombay Castle,
15th September 1836.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Secret Letter from
Bombay,
15 Sept. 1836.

SECRET LETTER FROM BOMBAY,

Dated 30th November 1836.

Secret Letter from
Bombay,
30 Nov. 1836.

1. In continuation of our Despatch dated the 15th September last, we have the honour to communicate to your Honourable Committee our subsequent proceedings connected with the Sattara conspiracy.

2. In consequence of the gradual increase of the troops in the service of his Highness the Raja, and the doubts entertained by the Resident, whether his Highness would consent to the surrender of the persons implicated in the conspiracy, Colonel Lodwick deemed it advisable to apply for a reinforcement of British troops, to be at hand previous to his adopting measures for securing them.

3. The Resident, moreover, stated it to be his opinion, that this conspiracy should be checked in its infancy by the effect of some severe examples, and that, although nothing had transpired to induce him to alter his opinion of there being no necessity for bringing the affair to a crisis, so long as delay might be useful towards obtaining information in other quarters, yet, as the Dussera approached and Sattara became full of troops, it was important that the demand should be followed by instant compliance, or the enforcement of it by active measures.

4. An ill-advised notice of the Sattara affairs appearing in the *Bombay Courier* newspaper, we caused the Resident to be informed of this fact; although we could hardly believe that any thing could have been inserted in a newspaper, which was not matter of conversation at Sattara.

5. In consequence of this intimation, Colonel Lodwick determined upon the seizure of the Bramin agent, and which was effected on the morning of the 7th October, in the lines of the 23d regiment of Native Infantry. Colonel Lodwick immediately requested a private audience with the Raja, which took place at ten o'clock on the same day.

6. On entering, Colonel Lodwick observed that his Highness appeared much agitated; but, on explaining the nature of his visit, and requiring certain persons to be given up, his Highness denied all knowledge of any attempt upon the fidelity of British troops, and expressed his firm belief that the result would establish the innocence of those accused.

7. On the Resident's requiring that immediate orders should be given for their apprehension, his Highness assured him that, within the space of two hours, they should be made over to him.

8. During the interview, Colonel Lodwick alluded to the existence of a plot against the British Government, and expressed his hope that the Raja would afford every information in his power; to which his Highness instantly replied, that such reports had long been current, but that, so far as he knew, they had no foundation.

9. On this occasion Colonel Lodwick did not deem it advisable to allude to his Highness's interview with the Native officers, as it would answer no good end; and moreover, being desirous of securing the accused persons as soon as possible. Thus ended the interview.

10. In less than an hour from

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Secret Letter from
Bombay,
30 Nov. 1836.

arrived separately, and were confined so as to prevent any mutual intercourse, after being (with the exception of the person called Appa Sahib, who was released) identified by the Native officers.

11. Among the attendants of the Dewan, the Native officers identified the man who on one occasion presented them with paun: this person was immediately apprehended. Two other respectable persons, named Appa Sahib, were sent by the Raja, neither of whom was identified by the Native officers; and the Resident declined calling for others, the person in question not appearing by the depositions to be an important witness, whilst his Highness was prepared at any time to give up the person, if identified.

12. The following persons were then placed in separate confinement:

1. Govind Row, Dewan.
2. Untajee, a Bramin.
3. Pureshram, Do.
4. Coosia.

13. On the receipt of this information, we deemed it advisable to appoint a secret Commission, composed of the following gentlemen, viz.:

Lieutenant-Colonel Lodwick, Resident; Sattara:

J. P. Willoughby, Esq., Political Secretary to Government:

Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans, Quarter-Master-general of the Army:

for the purpose of investigating and reporting upon the conspiracy alleged to have been formed. We beg to refer your Honourable Committee to our instructions to the Commission, copy of which accompanies this letter.

14. The readiness with which the Raja complied with our demand to surrender the accused parties appeared to us remarkable, and involved the case in greater uncertainty; more particularly as our Resident had received private letters from the Resident at Hyderabad and the Lieutenant-Governor of Agra, stating their total disbelief of the concurrence of the Nizam, on the one hand, and of Holkar and Scindia, on the other, in any plot against our Government. It therefore appeared, that the Raja of Sattara was the only person of any consequence to whom suspicion attached; and if so, no reason of policy appeared to us, why we should hold out to his Highness any hopes of clemency, in the event of his making a candid disclosure of his own transgressions. For this reason, we directed the Commissioners to use no language to his Highness which would fetter Government in its future proceedings.

15. In communicating our approval to Colonel Lodwick of the measures employed by him for securing the accused persons, we also caused it to be intimated to him, that we should have been more gratified to have learnt that no communication had been allowed to take place between those persons and the Raja, which would have afforded them the opportunity of preconcerting a defence, and that a search for papers in the houses of the accused would have been desirable.

16. It is not unlikely that, had the accused persons been separately examined the moment they fell into the Resident's power, some useful information might have been elicited from them, when their minds were confused by the terror occasioned by their seizure, and before they had the opportunity of concerting a tale.

17. The Resident, in explanation, stated, that the search for papers had not been noticed in his instructions, and that it appeared extremely doubtful at the time, whether his Highness would consent to give up the accused, and that, having no authority to search for papers in houses within the town, it might naturally have been expected that he should have met with opposition.

18. In the same letter the Resident reported, that on inquiry he found, that after his departure from the palace a meeting took place between the Raja and Govind Row, of less than a quarter of an hour's duration, and that not in private. None of the other persons had any communication with his Highness or with each other.

19. Up to the date of the Resident's letter of the 13th October, nothing of importance had been elicited from the prisoners.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

20. We shall do ourselves the honour to report to your Honourable Committee the result of the proceedings of the Secret Commission as early as practicable.

Secret Letter from
Bombay,
30 Nov. 1836.

We have, &c.

(signed)

R. GRANT,
J. KEANE,
EDW. IRONSIDE,
J. FARISH.

Bombay Castle,
30th November, 1836.

SECRET LETTER FROM BOMBAY,

Dated 17th January 1837.

Secret Letter from
Bombay,
17 Jan. 1837.

1. In our letter dated the 30th November last, we reported to your Honourable Committee, that we had appointed a Secret Commission for the purpose of investigating the conduct of his Highness the Raja of Sattara, who was accused of having held a clandestine interview with two Native officers of the 23d regiment of Native Infantry, for the purpose of endeavouring to seduce them from their allegiance.

2. We avail ourselves of the despatch of an overland mail by the *Hugh Lindsay* steamer, to acquaint your Honourable Committee that the report of the Commission has since been received, and is now engaging our attentive and serious consideration. These proceedings are too voluminous to be transmitted on the present occasion, but they shall be forwarded to your Honourable Committee by an early opportunity.

3. In the mean time, we have much pleasure in informing your Honourable Committee, that nothing like a combination of the Native powers of India appears to have been formed against the British Government.

4. We, however, deeply lament to report, that we have no doubt that the interview between his Highness the Raja and the Native officers actually took place; and, although the objects of his Highness appear at present altogether inexplicable, we have no doubt that the intention of the interview was, as originally reported, treasonable towards the power by whom he has been so long protected.

5. We shall, in communication with the Government of India, determine upon the manner in which this flagrant breach of existing treaties and the ties of friendship should be noticed, and report the same to your Honourable Committee as early as practicable.

6. We further beg to mention, that the person alluded to in our former reports as Govind Row, Dewan, having been clearly proved to have held two interviews with the Native officers, of a similar treasonable nature, we have caused him to be removed to Poona, and to be there confined as a State prisoner, under Regulation XXV. of 1827, until we receive the instructions of the Government of India for his final disposal.

We have, &c.

(Signed)

R. GRANT,
EDW. IRONSIDE,
J. FARISH.

Bombay Castle,
17th January 1837.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Secret Letter from
Bombay,
1 April 1837.

SECRET LETTER FROM BOMBAY,

Dated 1st April 1837.

1. Agreeably to the promise contained in our letter of the 17th January last, we have the honour to transmit to your Honourable Committee copy of the report of the Secret Commission recently assembled at Sattara, for the purpose of investigating the conspiracy alleged to have been formed at that place, together with copy of the proceedings of the Commission which accompanied it.

2. We have also the honour to forward a copy of our resolutions founded on the above report, which were unanimously agreed to at an Extraordinary Council held on the 12th December 1836, from which your Honourable Committee will learn the degree of guilt which, in our opinion, has been established against his Highness the Raja of Sattara.

3. Copies of our several minutes recorded on the occasion, and containing our sentiments on the course which should be pursued towards his Highness, are also forwarded for your Honourable Committee's information.

4. We have transmitted to the Government of India copies of the above documents, and have requested to be favoured, as early as may be practicable, with their instructions upon this difficult and important question.

5. We have also requested to be favoured with the instructions of the Government of India as to the disposal of Govind Row, Dewan, and Untajee the Bramin agent, now in confinement at Poona as state prisoners.

6. We have not yet received any answer to a reference which we caused to be made to the Government of Agra, regarding certain communications alleged to have taken place between his Highness the Raja of Sattara and the ex-Raja of Nagpore, alluded to in the Commission's proceedings.

7. Copies of such proceedings relative to the Sattara conspiracy, received subsequent to our report of the 17th January last, are also forwarded for your Honourable Committee's information.

8. We shall lose no time in transmitting to your Honourable Committee the decision of the Government of India, as to the punishment to be awarded to his Highness the Raja of Sattara.

We have, &c.

(Signed)

R. GRANT,
J. FARISH.

Bombay Castle,
1st April 1837.

Secret Letter from
Bombay,
28 April 1837.

SECRET LETTER FROM BOMBAY,

Dated 28th April 1837.

1. In continuation of our despatch of the 1st instant, we have the honour to submit to your Honourable Committee the accompanying copy of a minute by our Right Honourable President, and the documents connected with it, concurred in by the other members of the Board, relative to affairs at Sattara, and the recent inquiry instituted into the Raja's proceedings.

2. In forwarding these documents, we beg to inform your Honourable Committee, that the time fixed for the departure of the *Hugh Lindsay* does not admit of our addressing you formally and in detail, by letter, on the points discussed in our Right Honourable President's minute; but deeming it of importance that the information which it contains should reach you as early as possible, we trust we shall be excused having forwarded it in its present state.

3. We

3. We beg to add, that these documents will be immediately forwarded to the Government of India, in continuation of the proceedings we have already transmitted to that authority.

We have, &c.

(Signed)

R. GRANT,
J. KEANE,
J. FARISH.

Bombay Castle,
28th April 1837.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Secret Letter fr
Bombay,
28 April 1837

SECRET LETTER FROM BOMBAY,

Dated 24th June 1837.

Secret Letter fro
Bombay,
24 June 1837.

1. In continuation of our letters dated as per margin,* relative to the Sattara conspiracy, we have the honour to lay before your Honourable Committee an extract from our proceedings connected with the subject.

2. In submitting these proceedings, we beg to solicit your Honourable Committee's attention to the minutes recorded by our Right Honourable President, under dates the 8th and 11th April and 5th June 1837, regarding the supersession of Colonel Lodwick as Resident at Sattara, and the appointment of Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens (Quarter-Master-general of the Army of this Presidency) to officiate in that capacity, as also to the instructions issued to that officer on his appointment.

3. We further beg to solicit your Honourable Committee's attention to the following extract from a letter from the Secretary to the Government of India, under date the 22d May last, in reply to our references to that Government on the subject of the Sattara conspiracy.

"The Governor General in Council cannot agree with the Bombay Government, that it is expedient to adopt a middle course in this case. The report of the Commissioners convicts the Raja of an attempt to corrupt the fidelity of our troops, and of plotting the subversion of our rule, and if he is guilty he is guilty of an offence with which there should be no compromise, nor can his Lordship in Council admit the principle, that in a case like the present, the British Government should, from fear of imputations on the purity of its motives, refrain from the plain course of resuming territories and power, when those who have been entrusted with them are using them for its destruction. In such a case, his Lordship in Council is of opinion, that the treason should recoil upon those who contrived it, and should be made, at the same time, a source of additional strength to the British Government.

"The first impression of his Lordship in Council upon this case was, that, in the event of the reigning Raja being finally pronounced guilty, and as it then seemed probable that his nearest connections, and the great majority of his Court, were innocent and unconscious of his supposed evil designs, the best and most moderate course would be, to set him aside, and to put his brother, or other best qualified member of the family, in his stead; taking, however, the opportunity of reducing the amount of military force which should be maintained by any reigning Raja, and providing for the support of a body of horse, under British officers, from the resources of the Sattara State. A body, however, of one hundred and fifty horse would seem to be much too inconsiderable, with reference to the amount of the revenues of the principality.

"But the papers contained in your letter of subsequent date have shaken the confidence which the Governor General in Council was disposed to place in the innocence of Appa Sahib, the brother of the Raja, and of others who have exercised influence in the government of that State; and he might refer to page 165 of Major Sutherland's sketches, for opinions but little favourable to Appa Sahib's character.

"In

* 15th Sept. and 30th Nov. 1836; 1st and 28th April 1837.

**SATTARA
PAPERS.**

**Secret Letter from
Bombay,
24 June 1837.**

“In the petition (supposing it to be a genuine document) of the mother of Govind Row, there is an air of earnestness and of truth which would justify further investigation; and if the whole of the Raja's family should be implicated in treasonable designs, his Lordship in Council would not hesitate to recommend that they be altogether set aside, and the territories annexed to the British territory.

“The Right Honourable the Governor of Bombay in Council will have remarked, that by the communication of the Lieutenant-Governor of Agra of the 8th April last, the allegations of intercourse between the Raja of Sattara and the ex-Raja of Nagpore are certainly in some degree corroborated, and in no respect contradicted, though the particulars of that intercourse do not appear; and upon this, upon the authenticity of the petition supposed to be that of the mother of Govind Row, and upon the truth of the charges advanced in that petition, it is most desirable that the most accurate information should be obtained. His Lordship in Council looks with anxiety for the further comments promised by your letter of the 9th March, and for the answer to the letter addressed by you to the Political Agent of the Southern Mahratta country, as well as for any other information which might throw light on the subject.

“We will also be glad to be put in possession of the details of the disputes which have existed between the Raja of Sattara and his Jagheerdars, and of the complaints which may have been made thereupon.

“Although, for the reasons above stated, the case cannot be said to be ripe for decision, his Lordship in Council has deemed it advisable to convey to the Right Honourable the Governor in Council the intimation of the views which he now entertains on this important question; and, in conclusion, I am desired to state, that, in the opinion of the Governor General in Council, the individuals apprehended on suspicion of being implicated in this affair, should remain in confinement for the present as state prisoners.”

4. Having laid before your Honourable Committee the whole of the correspondence on this important question, from the date of its origin to the appointment of Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens, we shall do ourselves the honour to report to your Honourable Committee subsequent proceedings as they occur.

We have, &c.

(Signed)

J. KEANE,
J. FARISH.

Bombay Castle,
24th June, 1837.

**Secret Letter from
Bombay,
19 July 1837.**

SECRET LETTER FROM BOMBAY,

Dated 19th July 1837.

With reference to Colonel Lodwick's examination before the Commission assembled at Sattara for the purpose of investigating the conspiracy alleged to have been formed at that place, and to our letter, dated the 1st April last, forwarding the Commission's proceedings and report thereon, we have the honour to lay before your Honourable Committee copies of the documents noted in the annexed list, connected with the subject.

We have, &c.

(Signed)

J. KEANE,
J. FARISH.

Bombay Castle,
19th July, 1837.

SECRET LETTER FROM BOMBAY,

*Dated 16th August 1837.*SATTARA
PAPERS.Secret Letter from
Bombay,
16 Aug. 1837.

1. In continuation of our former despatches regarding the Sattara conspiracy, we have the honour to acquaint your Honourable Committee, that Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens has elicited much additional evidence, not only in confirmation of the fact of his Highness the Raja having attempted to seduce our troops, but likewise in proof of his having for some years past maintained a treasonable intercourse with the ex-Raja of Nagpore, if not with other chiefs in India.

2. The Acting Resident's inquiries are not, we beg to state, yet sufficiently advanced to enable us to make a report on the present occasion, but we hope to be able to submit to your Honourable Committee full particulars of the result of those inquiries by the steamer which will leave Bombay for the Red Sea in the month of September.

We have, &c.

(Signed)

R. GRANT,
JOHN KLANE,
J. FARISH.Bombay Castle,
16th August, 1837.

SECRET LETTER FROM BOMBAY,

*Dated 19th August 1837.*Secret Letter from
Bombay,
19 Aug. 1837.

1. In continuation of our letter of the 16th instant, relative to the late conspiracy at Sattara, we have the honour to lay before your Honourable Committee copy of a report from Colonel Ovens, the Acting Resident at his Highness's Court, dated the 7th instant, with its several enclosures, connected with the subject, together with copy of a minute by our Right Honourable President, dated the 15th instant, recorded on the occasion, in which we fully concur.

2. Copies of the letters which we have caused to be written to the Government of Agra and the Acting Resident on the subject are herewith forwarded, and we beg to inform your Honourable Committee, that a communication to the Government of India, to the effect suggested in our President's minute, will be made without loss of time.

We have, &c.

(Signed)

JOHN KEANE,
J. FARISH.Bombay Castle,
19th August, 1837.

SECRET LETTER FROM BOMBAY,

*Dated 25th September 1837.*Secret Letter from
Bombay,
25 Sept. 1837.

With reference to our letter, dated the 16th ultimo, connected with the Sattara affairs, we have the honour to transmit to your Honourable Committee by this opportunity, copies of reports, as per annexed list, from Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens, the Acting Resident at his Highness's Court, on the same subject, together with the several minutes and instructions founded thereon.

We have, &c.

(Signed)

R. GRANT,
J. FARISH.Bombay Castle,
25th September 1837.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Political Letter
from Bombay,
25 Sept. 1837.

POLITICAL LETTER FROM BOMBAY,

Dated the 25th September, No. 56 of 1837.

* * * * *

Secret Letter from
Bombay,
25 Sept. 1837.

SECRET LETTER FROM BOMBAY,

Dated 25th September 1837.

Secret Letter from
Bombay,
21 Oct. 1837.

SECRET LETTER FROM BOMBAY,

Dated 21st October 1837.

In continuation of our letter of the 25th ultimo, forwarding copies of the several reports from the Acting Resident at Sattara, as per list which accompanied it, we have now the honour to lay before your Honourable Committee copy of a further report from Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans, dated the 6th ultimo, with its several enclosures, of a minute recorded by our Right Honourable President thereon, under date the 22nd September last, concurred in by the other Members of Government, and the instructions issued in consequence, relative to the removal of Bulwunt Row Chitnavees from Sattara to Poona, there to be confined, as a state prisoner, until further orders.

We have, &c.

(Signed)

R. GRANT,
J. FARISH.

Bombay Castle,
21st October 1837.

Secret Letter from
Bombay,
23 Oct. 1837.

SECRET LETTER FROM BOMBAY,

Dated 23rd October 1837.

1. In continuation of our letter dated the 21st instant, forwarding copy of a report from the Acting Resident at Sattara dated the 6th ultimo, and of the proceedings thereon, relative to the removal of Bulwunt Row Chitnavees from Sattara to Poona, we have the honour to transmit to your Honourable Committee an extract from our proceedings in the Secret Department, as per annexed list, connected with Dr. Milne's projected visit to Sattara, and of that gentleman's having espoused the Raja's cause.

2. Should we not have time to forward the subsequent proceedings in this case, copies thereof shall be transmitted to your Honourable Committee by the steamer, which will leave this in November next.

We have, &c.

(Signed)

R. GRANT,
J. FARISH.

Bombay Castle,
23rd October 1837.

SECRET LETTER FROM BOMBAY,

*Dated 27th November 1837.*SATTARA
PAPERS.Secret Letter from
Bombay,
27 Nov. 1837.

1. With reference to our letter, dated the 23rd October last, forwarding an extract from our proceedings connected with Dr. Milne's proposed visit to Sattara, and stating that that gentleman had espoused the Raja's cause, we have now the honour to lay before your Honourable Committee the accompanying copies of further letters from Dr. Milne, dated as per margin,* handing to us, for transmission to Bengal, his communications of the same dates to the Secretary to the Government of India, explanatory of the Sattara intrigues.

2. On a perusal of these documents, your Honourable Committee will observe that Dr. Milne has endeavoured to shake the case against the Raja, by laying before the Supreme Government certain depositions and other documents, which, he boldly asserts, prove the fallacy of the charges against the Dewan, Govind Row, and even the Raja himself,

3. In his communication of the 28th September, Dr. Milne has thought proper to cast some unjust imputations on the character of the men of the 23d Regiment of Native Infantry, founded on a notice issued by the Resident to the Sattara Government on the regiment's first arrival at that place in the year 1833, not to give the men credit in the town of Sattara, to avoid disputes, and which is in conformity with a custom prevailing in all military bazaars.

4. The Acting Resident, however, in his despatch of the 11th October, refutes, in a most satisfactory manner, the aspersions which Dr. Milne has thought proper to cast on one of the finest and best-behaved corps of the army of this Presidency.

5. We now beg to draw your Honourable Committee's attention to the letters from the Government of India under dates the 2d and 16th October, relative to the Sattara intrigues, on which we have for the present refrained from offering any comment. We cannot, however, conceal the fact, that we have perused Mr. Macnaghten's letter of the 2d October with equal surprise and regret; and we have no hesitation in stating it to be our firm belief, that if the course suggested in the concluding part of that document be pursued, the credit of the British Government will be seriously impaired. We have, therefore, earnestly entreated the Government of India to suspend their judgment on the Sattara case until the Acting Resident shall have brought his inquiries to a close, stating at the same time, that it is our intention to communicate hereafter our sentiments on the Sattara case generally, accompanied by such observations as may occur to us on their letters above adverted to.

6. We have also directed the Acting Resident to prepare a digest of, and report on, the whole of the evidence taken on the Sattara case, with all practicable expedition; and we have further instructed him to act, as far as practicable, in conformity to the wishes of the Government of India, as conveyed in their letter of the 16th October, namely, to bring inquiries already commenced to an early conclusion, and to abstain from further inquiries of a collateral nature.

7. We also beg to call your attention to Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans's letter of 24th September, in which that officer states that he had received secret information that attempts were making in Bombay by the agents of the Raja of Sattara to bribe the Native officers of the 23d regiment of Native Infantry to falsify the statements formerly made by them against his Highness, as to his endeavouring to seduce the Native troops from their allegiance; and, from the inquiries instituted, we have reason to believe that the sum of rupees

ten

* 28th Sept.; 7th, 12th, and 26th Oct.; and 4th Nov. 1837.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Secret Letter from
Bombay,
27 Nov. 1837.

ten thousand has been sent to Bombay by the Raja, which, [*remittance, it*] is quite clear, has not been made for any good purpose.

We have, &c.

(Signed)

R. GRANT,
EDW. IRONSIDE,
J. FARISH.

Bombay Castle,
27th November 1837.

Secret Letter from
Bombay,
30 Nov. 1837.

SECRET LETTER FROM BOMBAY,

Dated 30th November 1837.

1. In continuation of our letter of the 27th instant, forwarding copies of various communications from Dr. Milne, dated as per margin,* regarding the case of his Highness the Raja of Sattara, we have now the honour to lay before your Honourable Committee copies of despatches from the Acting Resident at Sattara of dates noted in the margin,† commenting on Dr. Milne's communications of the 12th and 26th October and 4th instant, together with the several minutes recorded by our Right Honourable President thereon, and which have our full concurrence.

We have, &c.

(Signed)

R. GRANT,
J. FARISH.

Bombay Castle,
30th November 1837.

Secret Letter from
Bombay,
28 March 1838

SECRET LETTER FROM BOMBAY,

Dated 28th March, No. 1 of 1838.

1. We avail ourselves of the departure of the *Berenice* to acquaint your Honourable Committee that the affairs of the Raja of Sattara are still engaging our best consideration.

2. We deeply regret to inform your Honourable Committee that we have received some further reports from the Acting Resident at Sattara, Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans, regarding an improper intercourse maintained by the Raja for several years with the authorities at Goa, and likewise with the ex-Raja of Nagpore at Joudpore.

3. In support of each accusation, there is laid before us a mass of evidence, oral and documentary; and the Acting Resident has recorded his opinion, that each is fully established against the Raja.

4. From the vast number of the documents, and the necessary extent of Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans's despatches, it is physically impossible to prepare copies for transmission by the present overland packet, but we trust that nothing will prevent their being transmitted by that of April.

5. Our object, in the meantime, is to entreat that your Honourable Committee will suspend your judgment on the case, and to assure you that we will use our best endeavours to place before you the whole of the transactions it embraces in the clearest possible light, and, at the same time, to submit, as we are in duty bound to do, the most carefully and impartially considered opinion that we can form.

We have, &c.

(Signed)

R. GRANT,
J. FARISH,
G. W. ANDERSON.

Bombay Castle,
28th March 1838.

* 28th Sept.; 7th, 12th, and 26th Oct.; and 4th Nov. 1837.

† 13th, 14th, and 17th Nov. 1837.

SATTARA
PAPERS.Secret Letter from
Bombay,
25 April 1838.

SECRET LETTER FROM BOMBAY,

Dated 25th April, No. 2 of 1838.

1. With reference to our letter dated the 28th ultimo, we regret to report, for the information of your Honourable Committee, that we have been unable to prepare our proposed communication on the case of his Highness the Raja of Sattara, in time for despatch by the steamer, which will leave Bombay on the 27th instant.

2. We can assure your Honourable Committee, that we have striven hard to redeem the pledge given in our letter above-mentioned; but the documents which we have to submit for your consideration are so immensely voluminous, and the case one of such grave importance, and requiring so much and attentive deliberation, that we have failed in our object, and can only trust to the indulgence of your Honourable Committee to excuse a delay which is absolutely unavoidable.

3. We beg leave to add, however, that the case is in a considerable state of forwardness, and will certainly be transmitted by the next opportunity; and, in the meantime, we have only respectfully to repeat our request, that your Honourable Committee will be pleased to postpone your decision on the charges preferred against his Highness the Raja of Sattara until the receipt of our report, which, we doubt not, will fully explain the extraordinary conduct and proceedings of that prince.

We have, &c.

(Signed)

R. GRANT,
J. FARISH,
G. W. ANDERSON.Bombay Castle,
25th April 1838.

SECRET LETTER FROM BOMBAY,

*Dated 19th May, No. 3 of 1838.*Secret Letter from
Bombay,
19 May 1838.

1. In our despatch dated the 25th ultimo, we promised to transmit to your Honourable Committee the whole of our proceedings connected with the case of the Raja of Sattara, by the overland mail to be despatched by the steamer of the present month, and which has since been timed to leave Bombay on the 21st instant.

2. With the view of redeeming this pledge, our Right Honourable President recorded a minute on the 15th instant, proposing that the proceedings should be forwarded; but that, as there was not sufficient time for his civil colleagues to form their opinions on the immense body of evidence by which the case is supported, that his own opinion only should be transmitted, and the collective opinion of Government be submitted by the following opportunity.

3. In a subsequent minute, however, dated the 18th instant, our President expressed his regret, that he was obliged, in some degree, to deviate from his first intentions; for that he found it quite impossible to complete the series of minutes he had to submit before the 21st instant, the day fixed for the departure of the *Berenice* steamer.

4. He therefore proposed, that our present report should be confined exclusively to the Raja of Sattara's intrigues, during a long course of years, with the authorities of the Portuguese settlement of Goa.

5. We therefore respectfully solicit the attention of your Honourable Committee to our President's two elaborate minutes, dated the 5th and 15th instant, commenting on the evidence obtained on this part of the case, which, in his opinion, is most fully and completely substantiated against the Raja.

LETTERS FROM THE

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Secret Letter from
Bombay,
19 May 1838.

6. The nature of the case does not admit of an analysis. Both minutes have been drawn up in such a comprehensive manner, as will, we think, enable your Honourable Committee to form an accurate judgment on the Raja's conduct; and, in all their details, they will be found amply verified by the proceedings which accompany this despatch. The first minute exclusively relates to the evidence obtained at Sattara; the second, to the evidence obtained by Mr. Dunlop at Dharwar, and by Mr. Spooner at Rutnagheery; the two last inquiries, as your Honourable Committee will perceive, having been conducted quite independently of that carried on at Sattara, and also of one another.

7. In his minute of the 18th instant, our President briefly recapitulates the further minutes which it is his intention to submit on this important case. These are to embrace the following subjects:—

1st. Remarks on the Raja of Sattara's intercourse with Moodhojee Bhonsleh, the ex-Raja of Nagpore. On this subject our President has already recorded his opinion, that the alleged intercourse is fully proved; and further, that its objects were treasonable towards the British Government.

2d. Remarks on a statement or confession made by Appa Sahib, the Raja of Sattara's brother, in which he acknowledges his having, though as he alleges under the influence of fear, participated in one flagrant act of treason committed by the Raja.

3d. A final minute: first, in recapitulation of the various intrigues proved against the Raja; secondly, in explanation of the real key to the Raja's conduct; and thirdly, shewing how, in our President's opinion, the case ought ultimately to be disposed of.

8. We beg to assure your Honourable Committee, that we shall make every exertion to bring these proceedings to an early termination. Although we regret our inability to forward them complete by this opportunity, the delay will not, we conceive, be altogether without advantage, inasmuch as the opinions of this Government collectively will accompany our final despatch.

We have, &c.

Bombay Castle,
19th May, 1838.

(Signed) R. GRANT,
J. FARISH,
G. W. ANDERSON.

Secret Letter from
Bombay,
21 May 1838.

SECRET LETTER FROM BOMBAY,

Dated 21st May, No. 5 of 1838.

In continuation of our letter of the 19th instant, relative to the Sattara intrigues, we have the honour to transmit to your Honourable Committee the accompanying copies of minutes recorded by the Honourable Mr. Farish, and the Honourable Mr. Anderson, dated the 17th instant and this date, respectively, containing their sentiments on the conduct of his Highness the Raja of Sattara, so far as relates to the proceedings commented on in our Right Honourable President's minute of the 5th instant.

We have, &c.

Bombay Castle,
21st May, 1838.

(Signed) R. GRANT,
J. FARISH,
G. W. ANDERSON.

Secret Letter from
Bombay,
1 June 1838.

SECRET LETTER FROM BOMBAY,

Dated 1st June, No. 6 of 1838.

1. In continuation of our letters dated the 19th and 21st ultimo, we avail ourselves of the unexpected departure of the *Semiramis* steamer to the Persian Gulf,

Gulf, to transmit to your Honourable Committee copies of further minutes recorded by our Right Honourable President, and by the Honourable Mr. Farish, and the Honourable Mr. Anderson, on the case of the Raja of Sattara, namely :

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Secret Letter fr
Bombay,
1 June 1833.

1st. Minute, dated the 24th ultimo, containing our President's remarks on the Raja of Sattara's intercourse with Moodhojee Bhonsleh, the ex-Rajah of Nagpore.

2d. Minute by the Honourable Mr. Farish, dated the 31st ultimo, on the same subject.

3d. Minute by the Honourable Mr. Anderson, of this date, on the same subject.

4th. Minute, dated the 26th ultimo, containing our President's remarks on the statement or confession made by Appa Sahib, the Raja of Sattara's brother, adverted to in the seventh paragraph of our letter of the 19th ultimo.

5th. Minute dated the 31st ultimo, in which our President has reviewed the case of the Raja of Sattara, has explained the key to his extraordinary proceedings, and has recorded his sentiments as to how the case should be finally disposed of.

2. We have also the honour to transmit by this opportunity, copies of the whole of the correspondence on which the above minutes are founded, as per accompanying list.

3. On the first subject, your Honourable Committee will perceive that it is the unanimous opinion of this Government, that an intercourse between the Raja of Sattara and the ex-Raja of Nagpore has been fully established; and further, that the object of that intercourse was hostile and treasonable towards the British Government.

4. On the second and third subjects, the opinion of our President has only yet been recorded; but those of the civil members of the Government will be submitted to your Honourable Committee by the next opportunity.

5. By this opportunity, however, we have the honour to forward copy of a minute recorded by the Honourable Mr. Farish on the 19th ultimo, and of a minute recorded by the Honourable Mr. Anderson on the 22d ultimo, containing their opinions on the evidence obtained at Dharwar and Rutnagheery, in connexion with the Raja of Sattara's intrigues at Goa, and to which we beg to solicit the attention of your Honourable Committee.

We have, &c.

(Signed)

R. GRANT,
J. FARISH,
G. W. ANDERSON.

Bombay Castle,
1st June 1838.

SECRET LETTER FROM BOMBAY,

Dated 12th June, No. 7 of 1838.

Secret Letter from
Bombay,
12 June 1838.

In continuation of our letter dated the 1st instant, we have the honour to transmit to your Honourable Committee copies of further minutes recorded by our Right Honourable President, and by the Honourable Mr. Farish and the Honourable Mr. Anderson, dated as per margin,* on the case of his Highness the Raja of Sattara, together with copy of the letter, which we have caused to be addressed to the Secretary to the Right Honourable the Governor General of India, forwarding the further proceedings of this Government in the above case.

We have, &c.

(Signed)

R. GRANT,
J. FARISH,
G. W. ANDERSON.

Bombay Castle,
12th June 1838.

* Minute by the Honourable Mr. Farish, - dated 4th June.

Do do Mr Anderson, dated 7th —

Do do Governor, .. dated 8th —

Do do Mr. Anderson, dated 9th —

SATTARA
PAPERS.

SECRET LETTER FROM BOMBAY,

Dated 3d July, No. 10 of 1838.

Secret Letter from
Bombay,
3 July 1837.

1. With reference to our letters, dated as per margin, *regarding the Sattara intrigues, we have the honour to transmit to your Honourable Committee the accompanying copy of a despatch from the Acting Resident at Sattara, dated the 25th ultimo, together with the translation of a further *yad* from Geerjahbye, the mother of Govind Row, Dewan, dated the 12th of last month, and other documents on the same subject.

2. The information contained in the above documents is, in our opinion, of considerable importance.

1st. As confirmatory of the genuineness of Geerjahbye's petition :

2d. As proving the great efforts made at Sattara to induce her to disown that petition :

3d. As corroborative of the fact of the Goa intrigues having become known to Colonel Robertson :

4th. As illustrating the nature of the proceedings of the Raja's agents in England.

3. It is a singular fact, that his Highness the Raja of Sattara should have first been apprised of Geerjahbye's petition from England.

4. We have forwarded copies of the above documents to the Right Honourable the Governor General of India, and have instructed the Acting Resident at Sattara to adopt the most efficient means in his power for protecting Geerjahbye, should such become necessary.

We have, &c.

(Signed)

J. FARISH,

G. W. ANDERSON.

Bombay Castle,
3d July 1838.

SECRET LETTER FROM BOMBAY,

Dated 5th September, No. 20 of 1838.

Secret Letter from
Bombay,
5 Sept. 1838.

1. In continuation of our previous despatches relating to the conduct of the Raja of Sattara, we have the honour to transmit to your Honourable Committee, copies of letters from the Acting Resident at Sattara, dated as per margin, † submitting extracts from a correspondence carried on with the Raja by one of his agents at Bombay, named Rungoba.

2. For a review of the principal facts and circumstances alluded to in this correspondence, we beg to refer your Honourable Committee to a minute recorded by our President on the 24th ultimo.

3. From internal evidence, it is manifest that this correspondence is conducted under the direction and advice of Dr. Milne, who must therefore be considered responsible for its highly objectionable tone and tenor.

4. It throws considerable light on the attempt made by the Raja of Sattara to free himself from the dangerous position in which he is placed. It proves that he has numerous agents in Bombay, some of whom have acted independently of Dr. Milne, who has strongly remonstrated against their proceedings, and has insisted, and apparently with some success, that he alone ought to be employed. It also shews, that the Raja has, through Dr. Milne, entered into an extensive correspondence with persons in England, and that agents have proceeded thither to advocate his cause.

* 19th and 21st May; and 1st and 12th June 1838.

† 15th Feb.; 17th March; 25th April; 31st May; 15th and 16th Aug. 1838.

SATTARA
PAPERS.Secret Letter from
Bombay,
5 Sept. 1838.

5. The most important circumstance, however, revealed by this correspondence, is the shameful use, or rather abuse, of the liberty of the press which Dr. Milne has been guilty of; disgraceful in the case of any one, but more especially in that of a pensioned servant of Government.

6. Dr. Milne now stands forth as the author of the gross libels against this Government which have on various occasions appeared in the *Bombay Gazette* newspaper; and what is still more criminal, these libels have, in some cases, been transmitted by his direction to the Raja of Sattara, in order to shew his contempt of Government, and his power to vilify them and their officers, and thereby to maintain his influence over the Raja's mind.

7. In order to enable your Honourable Committee to form your own judgment on the libellous effusions to which we refer, we transmit with this despatch :—

1st. Such extracts from the above newspaper relating to the Sattara case, as are actually alluded to in Rungoba's correspondence as having been sent to the Raja :

2d. Extracts of a similar nature, which are not alluded to in that part of the correspondence before us :

We have only further to add, that Dr. Milne's connection with the *Gazette* press is matter of public notoriety, and that Mr. McDonald, late editor of that paper, is believed to have proceeded to England to advocate the Raja's cause.

8. It will remain with your Honourable Committee to determine, whether a pensioned servant of Government should be allowed with impunity, and for the worst of purposes, thus clandestinely to make use of the press, as an engine for bringing the Government of this country into disrespect, and charging those vested with authority, with tyranny and oppression towards a well-affected Native Prince. Apart from the Sattara case, we consider this to be a question of some moment; and we conceive it would be a dereliction of duty on our part, were we not to declare, that if such liberty be permitted, the most injurious consequences are likely to ensue.

9. We are aware that, under the existing law, the Government is powerless. But this will probably suggest for consideration, whether it is not expedient to pass some law which will provide against such a monstrous abuse of the liberty of the press, in a country where the Government stands in need of all the safeguards that can be devised.

10. Dr. Milne is in the receipt of a pension of £700 per annum, and your Honourable Committee will perhaps consider how far his unjustifiable proceedings ought to affect [it]; or, at all events, whether it is not desirable to withhold payment in this country, and to declare that, henceforward, it will only be paid to himself in person at the East-India House.

11. In Mr. Secretary Macnaghten's letter of the 21st December last we were informed, that the Governor General deemed "it right to observe, that the tone and temper manifested by Dr. Milne in this discussion appeared very objectionable, and far beyond the limits of any fair and temperate representation of facts." This opinion was merely founded on Dr. Milne's correspondence with his Lordship, forwarded through this Government; and it is scarcely necessary to remark, how much the justice of that opinion is exemplified by the present correspondence.

12.

13.

**SATTARA
PAPERS.**

14.

Secret Letter from
Bombay,
5 Sept. 1838.

* * * * *

15. As far as the Raja of Sattara himself is concerned, the correspondence does not convey much additional information, except on one point. It corroborates a fact of some importance, which has been elsewhere noticed, namely, that his Highness desires to assume the comprehensive title of "King of the Hindoos:" in fact, so addressed by his agent.

16.

* * * * *

We have, &c.

(Signed)

Bombay Castle,
5th September 1838.

J. FARISH,
G. W. ANDERSON,
JOHN A. DUNLOP.

Secret Letter from
Bombay,
7 Sept. 1838.

SECRET LETTER FROM BOMBAY,*Dated 7th September, No. 23 of 1838.*

* * * * *

Secret Letter from
Bombay,
5 Oct. 1838.

SECRET LETTER FROM BOMBAY,*Dated 5th October, No. 26 of 1838.*

1. In continuation of our letter, dated the 7th ultimo, relative to the Sattara affairs, we have the honour to transmit to your Honourable Committee copy of a further despatch from the Acting Resident at Sattara, dated the 20th ultimo, on the subject.

2. We have forwarded a copy of the above despatch to the Right Honourable the Governor General of India, and have solicited his Lordship's particular attention to the 6th paragraph of Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans's letter above quoted, and to the documents therein alluded to, proving that the Raja's agents in Bombay have not scrupled to communicate to the Raja events of a political nature, which are at present a cause of much anxiety and embarrassment to the British Government.

3. We cannot suppose that it will be tolerated, that persons, not only British subjects but servants of the British Government, shall transmit information of a political and secret nature connected with military operations to a foreign State, *known* to be ill-disposed towards us; and although this Government cannot apply a remedy, yet we deem it our bounden duty to represent, in the strongest terms, the gross indecency and impropriety of such communications.

4. Your Honourable Committee will observe from Rungoba's letter, dated the 7th August (No. 9 of the enclosures to Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans's despatch),

SATTARA
PAPERS.Secret Letter from
Bombay,
7 Sept. 1838.

patch), that he communicates, in Dr. Milne's name, that disputes exist between the British Government and Persia, Arabia, and Russia; that we have concluded a treaty with Runjeet Singh; that we are threatened with hostilities by the chief of Nepaul, who had collected an army of 20,000 or 25,000 men; and lastly, that the Raja of Burmah is preparing to war against us; and adds, that he had visited Mr. Baber, who had confirmed the intelligence to the above effect received from Dr. Milne. In a postscript he (Rungoba) communicates information regarding the movements of troops and reinforcements expected from England, describes Shikarpoore, and states, "the Nepalwala has issued proclamations inviting all Hindoos, whoever they may be, to co-operate and to enter his service." In Dr. Milne's name Rungoba enjoins secrecy: "The Sahib said, these matters, which I have directed you to write and report to the Maharaj Sirkar, should not be publicly communicated to any one there."

5. In a letter dated the 6th September (No. 12 of the enclosures to Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens's despatch), the agent gives information regarding passing events in Afghanistan, and observes—"The Roos, Room, and other people, are warlike soldiers and sturdy. In the event of war breaking out it will be difficult; but the British Government is formidable. After this, good success or ill success in this rests in the power of God. Thus hath the Sahib said."

6. In a letter of the 11th September, the Agent reports, that it had been discovered that the states of Rajpootana were in treasonable communication with Russia, and had written, "We all are one; with your co-operation we will expel the English from this country."

7. In allusion to the Raja of Sattara's own case, the Agent observes significantly: "But there is no documentary proof."

8. In No. 14, enclosure to Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens's despatch, the Agent reports, that the Russians and Persians have united against us, and that Dost Mahomed, Wuzeer of Room Sham in Turkistan, had joined them with a great number of troops: and in No. 15, enclosure to the same letter, it is stated, that orders have been received from the Governor General to send thirteen regiments from Bombay and twenty from Madras against the Russians.

9. We take this opportunity of transmitting to your Honourable Committee copy of a letter from the Acting Resident at Sattara, dated the 27th of August, stating his reasons for not presenting the letter to his Highness the Raja, announcing the death of the late Governor; and beg to observe, that the three last letters of the series accompanying the Acting Resident's letter of the 30th ultimo, testifying that that officer acted with his usual judgment in suggesting the non-delivery of the *khurreeta* in question, and the manner in which the Raja's agent intended to misconstrue that communication.

We have, &c.

(Signed)

J. FARISH,
G. W. ANDERSON,
JOHN A. DUNLOP.

Bombay Castle,
5th October 1838.

SECRET LETTER FROM BOMBAY,

Dated 6th October, No. 28 of 1838.

Secret Letter from
Bombay,
6 Oct. 1838.

1. We beg to transmit to your Honourable Committee an extract from the proceedings of the Government, relative to an application from Monsieur de ——— (formerly in the suite of Moolvee Mahomed Ismail Khan, Ambassador from the late King of Oude), for permission to accept employment in a civil capacity in the service of his Highness the Raja of Sattara, which we without hesitation refused.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Secret Letter from
Bombay,
6 Oct. 1838.

2. Monsieur de ——— subsequently solicited permission to settle in the Sattara territory, to carry on some speculation which he stated he had in view. This request we also negatived.

3. We further beg to transmit herewith, a copy of a despatch from the Acting Resident at Sattara, dated the 25th ultimo, which sufficiently proves the falsity of the representations made by Monsieur de ——— of the objects he had in view in requesting permission to visit Sattara, and shews the necessity which existed for refusing compliance with his application.

4. In forwarding this letter to the Governor General of India, we have informed his Lordship we are of opinion that the public interests must suffer, unless some decisive measures are speedily adopted to put an end to these intrigues, by bringing the case of the Raja of Sattara to a final termination.

5. From the accompanying memorandum by Mr. Willoughby, our Political Secretary, dated the 3d instant, your Honourable Committee will perceive that Monsieur de ——— called at that gentleman's house on the previous morning, and made the following communication: "Notwithstanding your cruelty towards me (alluding to the refusal of the Government to permit him to proceed to Sattara), I deem it right to inform you that I have been applied to by an agent to obtain five hundred engineers and men. The agent does not belong to one of the protected states." Monsieur de ——— refused to disclose the name of the agent or the state he alluded to, and abruptly left the house.

6. The communication made by Monsieur de ——— shews strikingly the length to which the parties who are engaged in the Sattara intrigues are disposed to proceed. Whatever may have been Monsieur de ———'s object in the communication, whether the substance of his communication be true or fictitious, we are of opinion that he should, if the law provides the means, be checked and punished for such proceedings. If the communication be true, and means, as implied, that this person has been applied to by the agent of an Indian State, for his aid in raising military levies, the communication is treasonable in a British subject, if he withholds from Government the necessary information to enable them to adopt measures for counteraction.

7. We have, however, deemed it advisable, in the first instance, to refer to the Acting Advocate-General for his opinion, as to whether the circumstances reported by the Political Secretary amount to an offence against the laws, and if so, of what distinct character, and what proceedings may be adopted against Monsieur de ———.

8. The result of this reference, and any further proceedings which we may be called upon to adopt in this case, will hereafter be reported to your Honourable Committee.

We have, &c.

(Signed) J. FARISH,
G. W. ANDERSON,
JOHN A. DUNLOP.

Bombay Castle,
6th October 1838.

Secret Letter from
Bombay,
Sec. Willoughby
to Sec. Melvill,
6 Oct. 1838.

SECRET LETTER FROM MR. SECRETARY WILLOUGHBY TO MR. SECRETARY MELVILL,

Dated 6th October 1838.

SIR:

I am directed by the Honourable the Governor in Council, to request that you will be pleased, to cause the accompanying packet to be delivered to the Honourable the Secret Committee, and to state that, as the *Atalanta* steamer is to leave this afternoon, the Governor in Council trusts that the Honourable the Secret Committee will excuse the present irregular way of forwarding the packet in question.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY,
Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle,
6 October 1838.

SECRET LETTER FROM BOMBAY,

*Dated 24th October, No. 31 of 1338.*SATTARA
PAPERS.Secret Letter fr
Bombay,
24 Oct. 1838

1. In continuation of our several despatches to your Honourable Committee respecting the intrigues carried on by his Highness the Raja of Sattara, we now do ourselves the honour of transmitting, for the information of your Honourable Committee, copy of a letter from the Secretary in attendance on the Right Honourable the Governor General of India, dated the 24th ultimo, forwarding copy of a minute recorded by his Lordship on the evidence which has been obtained against the Raja, and prescribing the course which should be pursued in finally disposing of this difficult and arduous case.

2. We have experienced the most unfeigned satisfaction, in perceiving that the sentiments of the Governor General on the Raja's proceedings, now so fully coincide with those which this Government had previously recorded, and that his Lordship concurs with us in opinion, that the Raja is already guilty of the three principal charges which have been preferred against him *viz* :

1st. His treasonous intercourse with the authorities at Goa :

2d. His treasonous intercourse with the ex-Raja of Nagpore :

3d. His attempt to seduce two Native officers of the 23d regiment of Native Infantry from their allegiance to the British Government.

3. In this result we chiefly rely for a full and complete justification of our proceedings in this important question, and that no part of the obloquy and reproach which has been so industriously cast on this Government, but more especially on our late highly-respected President, the Right Honourable Sir Robert Grant, both by the Raja and his numerous partizans, will be considered to have been justly deserved.

4. We confidently anticipate, that your Honourable Committee will, after an attentive consideration of the voluminous proceedings which have been forwarded with our former despatches on this subject, arrive at the same conclusions as those recorded in the minute of the Right Honourable the Governor General of India, now submitted, and that the proceedings of this Government in the painful and responsible position in which it was placed will be honoured with your approbation.

5. In conformity with the instructions of the Governor General, we have adopted the preliminary measure of directing Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens to prepare and submit for our approval, a statement embodying a full and clear detail of the facts connected with the several charges against the Raja, and of the names of the witnesses by whom they are proved, with a notice of the circumstances under which the evidence was obtained, in order that this document may be afterwards furnished to the Raja, and the opportunity afforded him of stating whatever he may desire to urge on his own behalf.

6. We have desired Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens, in preparing this statement, to confine himself to the three principal charges alluded to in the second paragraph of this despatch, and to omit all points of a doubtful nature, and such as he may conceive cannot be established by sufficient evidence.

7. We have, at the same time, directed the Resident to report what measures he may consider expedient to adopt, for the full and efficient protection of the witnesses, and for preserving inviolate the guarantees which have been extended to them.

8. We are of opinion, that a month or six weeks will be a sufficient period to enable the Raja to complete his answer to the statement; but, on this point, we have requested the Resident's opinion.

9. When this statement has been prepared, we have requested Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens to submit a separate report on the connection of Dr. Milne with the Sattara intrigues, for ultimate transmission to the Right Honourable the Governor General of India.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Secret Letter from
Bombay,
24 Oct. 1838.

10. We have derived great gratification from observing the terms of high commendation in which the Governor General has, in the last paragraph of his minute, noticed the eminent merits which have been displayed by Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens, in the prosecution and report of these inquiries.

11. On this occasion, it has appeared to us essential to the public interests, to support and strengthen, as far as possible, the authority of Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens, in the arduous and difficult situation in which, for some time to come, he will be placed; and, with this object in view, we have deemed it expedient no longer to delay confirming that officer in the situation of Resident at Sattara, for which he has already proved himself so eminently qualified. We trust that this measure will receive the approbation of your Honourable Committee.

12. Copy of the instructions issued to the Resident has been forwarded to the Right Honourable the Governor General, and we shall not fail to report, for the information of your Honourable Committee, any further proceedings which may be adopted.

We have, &c.

(Signed)

Bombay Castle,
24th October 1838.

J. FARISH,
G. W. ANDERSON,
JOHN A. DUNLOP.

Secret Letter from
Bombay,
15 Nov. 1838.

SECRET LETTER FROM BOMBAY,

Dated 15th November, No. 37 of 1838.

With reference to our despatch dated the 5th September, relative to the conduct of Mr. Baber and Dr. Milne as connected with the intrigues at Sattara, we have the honour to forward, for the consideration of your Honourable Committee, copy of a communication from the Secretary in attendance on the Right Honourable the Governor General of India, dated the 11th ultimo, expressing his Lordship's concurrence in the view taken by this Government of the conduct of the two gentlemen in question, and stating that, in regard to the former gentleman, the decision should be left to the Honourable the Court of Directors, and as respects Dr. Milne, that it would be objectionable to take any immediate measures, until the investigation into the conduct of the Raja of Sattara shall have been brought to a conclusion.

We have, &c.

(Signed)

Bombay Castle,
15th November 1838.

J. FARISH,
G. W. ANDERSON,
J. A. DUNLOP.

Secret Letter from
Bombay,
1 Dec. 1838.

SECRET LETTER FROM BOMBAY,

Dated 1st December, No. 38 of 1838.

1. In continuation of our despatch dated the 5th October last, relative to the Sattara intrigues, we beg to submit, for the information of your Honourable Committee, copy of a letter from the Resident at Sattara dated the 16th ultimo, and of its enclosures, and of the documents therein adverted to, which, in our opinion, throw considerable light on the mode in which Dr. Milne conducts his pernicious agency with the Raja.

2. We have also forwarded copy of the Resident's letter to the Right Honourable the Governor General of India, and requested the instructions of his Lordship, as to whether such a system should any longer be tolerated; and whether, with reference to these and other previous instances, Dr. Milne should

should not be peremptorily forbidden henceforward from holding communications, directly or indirectly, with the Raja or any of his connections.

We have, &c.

(Signed)

J. FARISH,
G. W. ANDERSON.
JOHN A. DUNLOP.

SATTARA
PA'ERS.

Secret Letter from
Bombay,
1 Dec. 1838.

Bombay Castle,
1st December 1838.

SECRET LETTER FROM BOMBAY.

Dated 1st December, No. 41 of 1838.

Secret Letter from
Bombay,
1 Dec. 1838.

1. In continuation of our letter dated the 24th ultimo, we have the honour to forward, for the information of your Honourable Committee, copies of two despatches, dated the 15th instant, from the Resident at Sattara, urging strong and powerful reasons, why the Raja of Sattara should not, as a preliminary measure, be furnished with the statement prescribed in the twelfth paragraph of the Right Honourable the Governor-General of India's minute dated the 23d September last, forming an accompaniment to our letter above alluded to.

2. We have likewise the honour to submit copy of our Political Secretary's letter of this date, submitting the question for his Lordship's reconsideration, and stating it to be our opinion, that it will be preferable, at once, to appoint a Commission, to investigate the charges against the Raja, and thus bring this case to a final termination.

3. We have ventured to express this opinion chiefly on two grounds :—

1st. Because we are unable to devise any means for securing efficient protection to the witnesses, after their names and the nature of their evidence has been communicated to the Raja. 2ndly. Because we are convinced that this case cannot be concluded without the appointment of a Commission; and that the statement which has been prepared by the Resident, if now given to the Raja, will only lead to a lengthened and unsatisfactory correspondence with the Raja.

4. Pending the receipt of his Lordship's reply, we shall not adopt any further measures, but shall be entirely guided by such instructions as we may hereafter be favoured with.

We have, &c.

(Signed)

J. FARISH,
G. W. ANDERSON,
JOHN A. DUNLOP.

Bombay Castle,
1st December 1838.

SECRET LETTER FROM BOMBAY,

Dated 1st December, No. 42 of 1838.

Secret Letter from
Bombay,
1 Dec. 1838.

1. With reference to our despatch dated 15th November 1838, relative to the conduct of Mr. Baber and Dr. Milne as connected with the intrigues at Sattara, we have the honour to forward to your Honourable Committee copy of a further communication from the Secretary in attendance on the Right Honourable the Governor General of India, dated the 22d October last, stating that the papers alluded to in our despatch to your Honourable Committee, dated the 5th October, had tended to confirm the opinion already expressed by his Lordship, of the highly unbecoming and reprehensible conduct of Dr. Milne, and to induce his Lordship to think even more unfavourably than before of that gentleman's motives and proceedings.

2. The Governor General was nevertheless of opinion, that until the termination of the pending inquiry into the conduct of the Raja of Sattara, Dr. Milne should not be visited with any serious penalty; for such a measure, his

SATTARA
PAPERS.Secret Letter from
Bombay,
1 Dec. 1838.

Lordship considered, would be liable to be construed into a desire of depriving the Raja of the aid of an efficient adviser in the preparation of his defence. But his Lordship at the same time suggested, that with regard both to Dr. Milne and Mr. Baber, an abstract of instances of their misconduct should be prepared, and submitted for the consideration and orders of the Honourable the Court of Directors, who would visit them with such mark of their displeasure, either by depriving them of their pensions or otherwise, as might be deemed just and proper.

3. With reference to our despatches noted in the margin* regarding Monsieur de ———, the individual whose application to visit Sattara was refused by us, we beg to report, that he is considered by the Right Honourable the Governor General as a mere adventurer, who has mixed himself up in the Sattara intrigues in the hope of gaining money, and that he is not of sufficient importance to merit the notice of Government; but that, if we thought it otherwise, he might be told that a perseverance in the spirit of intrigue he has displayed, would subject him to the penalty of deportation.

4. We have caused a copy of the above communication to be forwarded to the Resident at Sattara.

We have, &c.

Bombay Castle,
1st December 1838.

(Signed) J. FARISH,
G. W. ANDERSON,
JOHN A. DUNLOP.

Secret Letter from
Bombay,
1 Dec. 1838.

SECRET LETTER FROM BOMBAY,

Dated 1st December, No. 44 of 1838.

With reference to our despatch dated the 6th October last, regarding Monsieur de ———, and to the communication made by him to our Political Secretary, alluded to in the fifth paragraph thereof, we have now the honour to transmit copy of a letter from the Acting Advocate-General of the same date, from which your Honourable Committee will perceive, that that officer is of opinion that no legal proceedings could be adopted against Monsieur de ———; we have therefore, for the present, resolved upon taking no further step in the case.

We have, &c.

Bombay Castle,
1st December 1838.

(Signed) J. FARISH,
JOHN KEANE,
G. W. ANDERSON,
JOHN A. DUNLOP.

Secret Letter from
Bombay,
4 Dec. 1838.

SECRET LETTER FROM BOMBAY,

Dated 4th December, No. 47 of 1838.

1. We beg to transmit to your Honourable Committee copies of the correspondence noted in the margin,† and to observe that these documents, in our opinion, confirm in a most remarkable manner the previous proofs obtained against the Raja of Sattara, of his having held treasonous intercourse with Goa.

2. We

* 6th Oct., No. 28, 1838, and Secretary's Letter of the same date.

† Copy of a letter from the Acting Political Agent in the Southern Mahratta country, without date, with enclosures, to the Resident at Sattara, dated 28th Oct. 1838; from do., dated 18th Nov.

2. We also have the honour to forward copy of a letter from Colonel Ovens, the Resident at Sattara, dated the 22d ultimo, handing up translations of documents sent from Bombay, by the direction of Dr. Milne, to his Highness the Raja, and to state that we consider their contents to be of a very singular character, and as likely to confirm his Highness's hostility towards the British Government, by giving him false impressions of the present state of affairs in India.

3. We likewise beg to submit to your Honourable Committee copy of a further letter from Colonel Ovens, dated the 23d ultimo, containing a clear and plain statement of the origin, nature, and progress of Dr. Milne's connection with the Raja; and to observe, that it remains with your Honourable Committee to determine whether any, and what, notice should be taken of that gentleman's most unjustifiable proceedings in the case. This statement has been prepared in conformity with the instructions of the Right Honourable the Governor General of India, communicated to us in Mr. Secretary Macnaghten's letter dated the 24th September last.

4. In conclusion, we have the honour to draw the attention of your Honourable Committee to that part of the Resident's report, adverting to the share which Mr. Baber has latterly taken in these intrigues.

We have, &c.

(Signed)

Bombay Castle,
4th December 1838.

J. FARISH,
G. W. ANDERSON,
JOHN A. DUNLOP.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Secret Letter from
Bombay,
4 Dec. 1838.

SECRET LETTER FROM BOMBAY,

Dated 5th December, No. 50 of 1838.

Secret Letter from
Bombay,
5 Dec. 1838.

1. We beg to transmit to your Honourable Committee copy of a letter and of its enclosure from the Resident of Sattara, dated the 28th ultimo, reporting it to be the intention of the Raja to depute Monsieur de ——— in charge of a mission to England on his Highness's affairs.

2. Copy of this communication has been forwarded to the Right Honourable the Governor General of India, with a request that his Lordship will be pleased to favour us with his instructions, as to whether the mission in question should be allowed to proceed to England.

We have, &c.

(Signed)

Bombay Castle,
5th December 1838.

J. FARISH,
G. W. ANDERSON,
JOHN A. DUNLOP.

EXTRACT SECRET LETTER FROM BOMBAY,

Dated 19th January, No. 6 of 1839.

Extract
Secret Letter from
Bombay,
19 Jan. 1839.

Para. 3. As connected with this despatch, we beg also to forward to your Honourable Committee copy of a letter and enclosure from the Resident at Sattara dated the 7th instant, and to observe, that these documents indicate that his Highness the Raja of Sattara is still in communication with the ex-Raja of Nagpore.

4. Copy of this communication has been forwarded to the Right Honourable the Governor General of India, with an intimation, that it rests with his Lordship to determine whether any measures should be adopted at Joudpore, to ascertain more precisely the nature of the improper intercourse; and the Resident at Sattara has, in the mean time, been requested to persevere in his inquiries on the subject.

SATTARA
PAPERS.Secret Letter from
Bombay,
31 Jan. 1839.

SECRET LETTER FROM BOMBAY, *

Dated 31st January, No. 11 of 1839.

1. With reference to our despatch dated the 1st December (No. 41) 1838, relative to the case of his Highness the Raja of Sattara, we now do ourselves the honour of forwarding to your Honourable Committee, copy of a letter from the Officiating Secretary with the Right Honourable the Governor General of India, dated the 31st ultimo, forwarding copy of a minute by his Lordship on the subject.

2. In forwarding the above communication, we regret to state that the same reached Bombay only on the 21st instant, being one day subsequent to the departure of the Honourable Company's steamer *Hugh Lindsay* with the last overland mail, which prevented it being forwarded to your Honourable Committee, as intended by his Lordship, by that opportunity.

3. The sentiments expressed by the Right Honourable the Governor General of India in the above minute have afforded us much gratification; since, although his Lordship hesitates to carry into effect the suggestions of this Government regarding the disposal of this case without the previous instructions of your Honourable Committee, he appears fully to concur with us as to the necessity of their adoption.

We have, &c.

(Signed)

Bombay Castle,
31st January 1832.J. FARISH,
G. W. ANDERSON,
JOHN A. DUNLOP.Secret Letter from
Bombay,
6 Feb. 1839.

SECRET LETTER FROM BOMBAY,

Dated 6th February, No. 12 of 1839.

1. With reference to our despatch, dated the 4th December (No. 47) 1838, relative to Dr. Milne's connexion with his Highness the Raja of Sattara, we have the honour to transmit to your Honourable Committee copy of a letter from the Officiating Secretary in attendance on the Right Honourable the Governor General of India, dated the 7th ultimo, from which your Honourable Committee will perceive that his Lordship fully concurs with us in opinion, as to the impropriety of Dr. Milne's proceedings as connected with the case of the Raja of Sattara.

2. We have not deemed it expedient, at this stage of our proceedings, to make a communication to Dr. Milne to the extent directed by the Right Honourable the Governor General, for the reasons assigned in our Honourable President's minute, dated the 25th ultimo, a copy of which is herewith forwarded.

3. We have, however, caused Dr. Milne to be informed, that under the instructions received from his Lordship, and as a subject and a pensioner of the British Government, he should henceforth refrain from holding any communication whatever, either directly or indirectly, with his Highness the Raja of Sattara.

We have, &c.

(Signed)

Bombay Castle,
6th February 1839.J. FARISH,
G. W. ANDERSON,
JOHN A. DUNLOP.

SATTARA
PAPERS.Political Letter
from Bombay.
20 Feb. 1839.

POLITICAL LETTER FROM BOMBAY,

Dated 20th February, No. 6 of 1839.

1. We beg to acknowledge the receipt of your Honourable Court's despatch dated the 13th June (No. 12) 1838, and to state that the whole of the proceedings of this Government, connected with the case of his Highness the Raja of Sattara have, up to the present date, been forwarded to the Government of India.

2. We beg to inform your Honourable Court, that all our proceedings connected with this case, subsequent to those alluded to in your despatch now acknowledged, have been forwarded to the Honourable the Secret Committee on the dates noted in the margin.*

We have, &c.

(Signed)

J. FARISH,
G. W. ANDERSON,
JOHN A. DUNLOP.Bombay Castle,
20th February, 1839.

SECRET LETTER FROM BOMBAY,

*Dated 25th February, No. 24, of 1839.*Secret Letter from
Bombay,
25 Feb. 1839.

1. We do ourselves the honour to report to your Honourable Committee, that in a letter from the Superintendent of the Indian Navy, dated the 12th instant, that officer brought to our notice the circumstance of eight Hindoos having engaged a passage on board the French ship *George Cuvier*, bound to Bordeaux, for the alleged purpose of eventually proceeding to England, on a mission on the part of his Highness the Raja of Sattara.

2. On the same date the Acting Senior Magistrate of Police reported, that Monsieur de ———, the individual alluded to in our despatches noted in the margin,† was about to quit Bombay as a passenger on board the above-mentioned ship, with the intention of landing on the Malabar coast.

3. We have, in consequence, deemed it requisite to instruct the Acting Senior Magistrate of Police to intimate to Monsieur de ——— that he was quite at liberty to proceed to Europe or to quit India, but that he could not be permitted to land and remain at subordinate stations belonging to the Honourable Company's territories.

4. We have, at the same time, caused a circular letter to be addressed to the different authorities on the Malabar coast, informing them that Monsieur de ——— has, during his residence in Bombay, been considered to be a person to whom permission to proceed into the interior should not be granted, in order that they may prevent his landing and remaining at any of the subordinate stations of the Honourable Company.

5. In regard to the eight individuals above alluded to, the Acting Senior Magistrate was requested to ascertain the grounds on which they were proceeding to Europe; whether they were exactly aware on what terms they were going to so distant a country; whether they proceeded with their own free will; and what means they possessed for their support during their absence.

6. The Acting Senior Magistrate was farther requested, in the event of these persons stating that they were going under the orders of his Highness the Raja of Sattara, immediately to place himself in communication with the
Acting .

* 28th March; 25th April; 19th and 21st May; 1st and 12th June; 3d July; 5th, 7th, and 29th Sept.; 6th and 24th Oct.; 15th Nov.; 1st, 4th, and 5th Dec. 1838; and 6th Feb. 1839.

† 6th October, No. 28 of 1838; 1st Dec., No. 42 of 1838; 1st Dec. No. 44 of 1838; 5th Dec., No. 50 of 1838.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Secret Letter from
Bombay,
25 Feb. 1899.

Acting Advocate-General on the subject, in order that, if it appeared to that officer that they could be prevented from proceeding on such a mission, they might, if we judged such a measure expedient, be detained.

7. The Resident at Sattara was requested to report if any circumstances had come to his knowledge confirmatory of such a mission being deputed to England by his Highness the Raja.

8. The Acting Advocate-General having, in a letter dated the 18th instant, expressed an opinion in accordance with our own sentiments on the subject, we caused an immediate examination of the parties composing the mission to be held by our Acting Secretary in the Persian Department, with the view of ascertaining the real facts connected with their mission; and the Resident at Sattara was, at the same time, requested to ascertain from the Raja whether these persons were deputed by his Highness.

9. On these Hindoos being interrogated by the Acting Senior Magistrate of Police, four of them stated that they intended to proceed to the Malabar coast as merchants, and that the others were their servants; that they had no particular object in view; that they did not know to what part of the coast they were proceeding; that when they reached the coast, if the weather proved favourable, they would go on to London, to see a country of the wonders of which they have heard so much; that they did not know any one in London, but that they would find an agent on their arrival there; that though they were the subjects of the Raja of Sattara, they were unknown to his Highness, and that he was not even aware of their intended voyage.

10. On an application from the owner of the ship *George Cuvier*, representing the inconvenience to which he was subjected in consequence of the port-clearance of his vessel being withheld on account of the Native passengers proceeding in her, we apprized him that no objection existed to his being furnished with the port-clearance without these Natives, regarding whom an investigation was in progress.

11. From the memorandum by our Acting Secretary in the Persian Department, dated the 21st instant, submitting the statements made before him by the parties composing the mission in question, as named in the margin, it appears that Eshwunt Rao, a distant relation of the Raja of Sattara, assisted by Bhugwunt Rao, is the head of it, and that the others are mere menial servants; with the exception of Narrain Rao Sirki, who is said to be the brother of Eshwunt Rao; who acknowledged, after some prevarication, that he is proceeding to England on the part of the Raja of Sattara.

12. In reply to the reference made by us to the Resident at Sattara, to ascertain if any circumstances had come to his knowledge, confirming the mission as being deputed by his Highness the Raja, that officer, in his letter dated the 18th instant, states, that some of the persons are identified with those alluded to in his communication dated the 28th November last, which formed an enclosure to our despatch to your Honourable Committee, dated the 5th December last.

13. The accompaniment to the Resident's present communication contains all the information he possessed on the subject of this mission, which tends to shew the disposition that still exists on the part of his Highness the Raja and his agents, to carry on the intrigues against the British Government.

14. The letter from Colonel Ovens, above alluded to, and the result of the examination of our Acting Secretary, left no doubt on our minds regarding the nature and objects of the mission about to proceed to England on the part of the Raja of Sattara.

15. Being, however, doubtful whether we possess the power of preventing this mission from proceeding to its destination, we have caused the parties composing it to be apprized, that they are at liberty to embark on board the ship *George Cuvier*, upon the established deposit being lodged in the Honourable Company's treasury on account of those proceeding in the character of servants.

SATTARA
PAPERS.Secret Letter fr
Bombay,
25 Feb. 1839

16. We have deemed it expedient to cause the principal persons of the mission to be informed, that we are satisfied that, proceeding as they do without the sanction of this Government, they will find themselves mistaken in the expectation that they will be recognized in any public capacity by her Majesty's Government, or by the Honourable the Court of Directors.

17. We cannot but express our earnest recommendation, that this mission may not, on its arrival in England, be recognized, either by the Honourable the Court of Directors or by her Majesty's Government.

18. We beg, at the same time, respectfully to solicit the instructions of your Honourable Committee whether such missions should hereafter be allowed, or not, to proceed to England.

19. We leave it to your Honourable Committee to determine whether the Raja of Sattara has, in this instance, acted in conformity with the treaty entered into between the British Government and his Highness, under date the 25th September 1819.

20. We cannot conclude this despatch without respectfully drawing the particular attention of your Honourable Committee to a very material fact, elicited by our reference to the Resident at Sattara, alluded to in the latter part of the fourth paragraph of his letter dated the 18th instant.

21. It would appear that Captain Cogan has, since his arrival at the Presidency as her Majesty's Commissioner and Plenipotentiary to the Court of his Highness the Sultan at Muscat, mixed himself up with the intrigues of the Raja of Sattara, and has been in communication with Dr. Milne, and also with a Native agent of his Highness, named Hummunt Rao Goonajec.

22. It is a matter of astonishment to us, how Captain Cogan, filling, as he does, so high a situation under the Crown, could feel justified in mixing himself up with political intrigues against the British Government.

23. We have not, as yet, addressed Captain Cogan on this subject. It is, however, under our consideration, whether Government should make any, and what, communication to that officer.

24. We further beg to inform your Honourable Committee, that we have drawn the attention of the Right Honourable the Governor General of India to the increased necessity which exists for bringing the case of the Raja of Sattara to a final termination, with as little delay as possible, and which the letter from your Honourable Committee, dated the 22d December last, appears to have anticipated.

25. Copies of the whole of the proceedings connected with the subject of this despatch are herewith forwarded, and we trust that the measures adopted by us will meet with the approbation of your Honourable Committee.

We have, &c.

Bombay Castle,
25th February 1839.

(Signed) J. FARISH,
G. W. ANDERSON,
JOHN A. DUNLOP.

SECRET LETTER FROM MR. SECRETARY WILLOUGHBY TO
MR. SECRETARY MELVILL.

Dated 25th February L 1839.

Secret Letter from
Bombay,
Sec. Willoughby to
Sec. Melvill,
25 Feb. 1839.

SIR:

As the Honourable Company's steamer *Berenice* is on the eve of departure for the Red Sea, I am directed by the Honourable the Governor in Council to transmit to you the enclosed packet for delivery to the Honourable the Secret Committee, containing copy of a despatch this moment received from the Resident at Sattara, regarding the Native deputation proceeding to England

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Secret Letter from
Bombay,
Sec. Willoughby to
Sec. Melville,
25 Feb. 1839.

on the part of his Highness the Raja of Sattara, alluded to in the despatch this day addressed by the Honourable Board to the Honourable the Secret Committee.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY,
Secretary to Government.

To the Secretary,
at the East-India House,
London.

Secret Letter from
Bombay,
7 March 1839.

SECRET LETTER FROM BOMBAY,

Dated 7th March, No. 25 of 1839.

1. We beg to acknowledge the receipt of your Honourable Committee's despatch dated the 22d December last, and, with reference to the fourth to seventh paragraphs thereof, respectfully to observe, that we presume it will rest with the Right Honourable the Governor General of India to take any further steps for correcting the evils pointed out in our two despatches to your Honourable Committee, dated the 5th and 6th October 1838.

2. Copy of your Honourable Committee's despatch now acknowledged, of our despatches dated the 5th and 6th October last, and of this reply, have been forwarded for the information of the Right Honourable the Governor General of India.

We have, &c.

(Signed) J. FARISH,
G. W. ANDERSON,
J. A. DUNLOP.

Bombay Castle,
7th March 1839.

Secret Letter from
Bombay,
14 March 1839.

SECRET LETTER FROM BOMBAY,

Dated 14th March, No. 27 of 1839.

1. In the twentieth to the twenty-third paragraphs of our despatch dated the 25th ultimo, we did ourselves the honour of reporting to your Honourable Committee, that it had been brought to our notice that Captain Cogan, since his arrival at Bombay as her Majesty's Plenipotentiary to his Highness the Sultan of Muscat, had mixed himself up with the intrigues of the Raja of Sattara, and had been in communication with Dr. Milne and with a Native agent of his Highness named Hummunt Rao Goonajee; and that it was engaging our consideration, whether we should make any, and what, communication to that officer on the subject.

2. After careful deliberation on the circumstances of the case, we resolved, in consideration of the high situation filled by Captain Cogan under the Crown of England, to communicate to him the facts of his intercourse with the Raja's agents having come to our knowledge, in order that, if he had been misrepresented, he might have the earliest opportunity of denying a charge so inconsistent with the office with which he has been honoured.

3. The requisite intimation was accordingly made to Captain Cogan on the 28th ultimo, and we now beg to forward to your Honourable Committee copy of the reply returned thereto on the 1st instant.

4. We consider Captain Cogan's answer to our reference not to be of that straightforward character which might have been expected from him. In the second paragraph he admits, that he has been visited by parties representing themselves as subjects of the Raja of Sattara; but no explanation of the nature and objects of their communication is afforded by Captain Cogan.

5. For the views we entertained regarding Captain Cogan's conduct on this occasion, we beg respectfully to refer your Honourable Committee to the minutes

minutes which have been recorded by our Honourable President and by the Honourable Mr. Anderson.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

6. We are of opinion, that it is not expedient for us to prosecute this matter further at the present moment, except by forwarding copy of Captain Cogan's reply, for the information of the Right Honourable the Governor General of India, and submitting our proceedings to your Honourable Committee, to enable you to form your own conclusions on the subject, and to bring the case to the notice of her Majesty's Government, should such a measure be deemed expedient.

Secret Letter from
Bombay,
14 March 1839

We have, &c.

(Signed)

J. FARISH,
G. W. ANDERSON,
J. A. DUNLOP.

Bombay Castle,
14th March 1839.

SECRET LETTER FROM BOMBAY,

Dated 25th March, No. 33 of 1839.

Secret Letter from
Bombay,
25 March 1839.

1. In our despatch dated the 25th ultimo, No. 24, we brought to the notice of your Honourable Committee the circumstance of eight Hindoos having engaged a passage on board the French ship *George Cuvier*, bound to Bordeaux, for the alleged purpose of eventually proceeding to England, on a mission on the part of his Highness the Raja of Sattara, and that we had finally determined not to prevent their proceeding on board that vessel, upon the established deposit being lodged in the Honourable Company's Treasury, on account of such of them as might be proceeding in the character of servants.

2. The Acting Senior Magistrate of Police was informed of the decision of Government, and directed to require the parties concerned to make the deposit in question before granting the port-clearance certificate.

3. The principal persons composing the mission were at the same time informed, that we are satisfied that, proceeding as they do without the sanction of Government, they would find themselves mistaken in the expectation that they would be recognized in any public capacity by her Majesty's Government, or by the Honourable the Court of Directors.

4. On the receipt of the instructions mentioned in the second paragraph of this despatch, Mr. Elliot, the Acting Senior Magistrate of Police, reported that the owner of the *George Cuvier* had, on the 21st ultimo, waited on him at the Police Office, and having erased from his return the names of M. de ——— and the Natives who had taken a passage in that vessel, requested that a port-clearance might be granted, in order that he might immediately proceed on his voyage.

5. Mr. Elliot stated, that having complied with this request, the *George Cuvier* had immediately proceeded on her voyage; and that, should the Natives in question make a further application to him for permission to proceed to Europe, he would inform them to the effect of the second paragraph of this despatch.

6. In reply, Mr. Elliot was informed, that we considered that he had committed a great mistake in the course adopted by him on this occasion, since, on the receipt of the instructions of Government alluded to by him, he ought to have communicated the same to the parties concerned, and which we directed him to lose no time in doing.

7. On the 5th instant Mr. Elliot reported, that he had on the same day addressed an official communication to the Natives in question, informing them to the effect of the previous instructions of Government.

8. We were of opinion that Mr. Elliot should have made the communication directed verbally, and not in writing, but we deemed it unnecessary to notice his having resorted to the latter mode of communication.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Secret Letter from
Bombay,
25 March 1839.

9. On the 22d ultimo, the Resident at Sattara forwarded translation of the documents noted in the margin,* being letters addressed to the Raja of Sattara by certain agents of his Highness in Bombay, from which, he observed, it would be seen that the assertion of the Hindoos, that they were proceeding to Malabar for commercial purposes, was a mere subterfuge, and that they were really proceeding to Europe on a mission from the Raja of Sattara, and were only waiting his Highness's final orders on the subject.

10. In a subsequent letter from Colonel Ovens of the same date, that officer stated, that in accordance with the instructions of Government, dated the 19th ultimo, he had called upon the Raja of Sattara to state whether these Natives composed a deputation on the part of his Highness to the Home Authorities. In reply† to which his Highness had admitted, without reserve, that they were proceeding to England by his orders.

11. On the 11th instant, the Acting Senior Magistrate of Police submitted an original letter to his address from two of these Natives,‡ stating that, in consequence of the opposition offered by Government, in the first instance, to their proceeding to England, they had lost their passage in the *George Cuvier*, and that the Raja of Sattara had, in consequence, incurred a penalty of 5,500 rupees, and which they requested might be refunded to them by Government.

12. In reply, Mr. Elliot was requested to refer these individuals to Government; a course, we informed him, he ought to have observed in the first instance.

13. On the 13th instant, the two Natives above alluded to appeared before Mr. Elliot, and requested an answer to their application for the refund of their forfeited passage-money; and, on being referred by him to Government, they appeared satisfied and retired.

14. Mr. Elliot stated in the same letter, that he had received an intimation that these Natives had engaged their passage for England in a vessel called the *Reliance*, then on the point of sailing for Liverpool.

15. On the 18th instant, we received a further letter from the Acting Senior Magistrate of Police, reporting that the names of the individuals noted in the margin were included in the return of passengers proceeding to Liverpool in the *Reliance*.

16. In this list the name of Bapoojee Boodgoodai is substituted for that of Marayen Rao, entered in the former list of the Natives who purposed proceeding in the *George Cuvier*.

17. The usual deposit having been lodged in the treasury for the five Hindoos proceeding as servants, and for the Portuguese in his capacity of Interpreter, a port-clearance was granted for the *Reliance*, and that vessel left Bombay for Liverpool on the 19th instant, having on board the whole of these individuals.

18. In conclusion, we again venture respectfully to express our earnest hope that these individuals will not, on their arrival in England, be in any way recognized by her Majesty's Government or by the Honourable the Court of Directors.

We have, &c.

(Signed)

J. FARISH,
G. W. ANDERSON,
J. A. DUNLOP.

Bombay Castle,
25th March 1839.

* Not stated.

† *Vide* his Highness's *Yad* to the Resident, dated 21st February 1839, forming enclosures to Colonel Ovens's letter dated 22d February.

‡ Namely, Eshwunt Rao Rajey Sirkey, and Bhugwunt Rao Wittul.

SATTARA
PAPERS.Secret Letter from
Bombay,
10 April 1839.

SECRET LETTER FROM BOMBAY,

Dated 10th April, No. 38 of 1839.

1. We beg to acknowledge the receipt of your Honourable Committee's letter dated the 22d January last, forwarding, for the information and guidance of this Government, copy of your despatch of the same date to the address of the Right Honourable the Governor General of India in Council, relative to the case of his Highness the Raja of Sattara.

2. In reply, we have the honour to state, that the instructions of your Honourable Committee, contained in this despatch, will, as far as this Government is concerned, be strictly attended to.

We have, &c.

(Signed)

J. FARISH,
G. W. ANDERSON.Bombay Castle,
10th April 1839.

SECRET LETTER FROM BOMBAY,

Secret Letter from
Bombay,
13 April 1839.*Dated the 13th April, No. 43 of 1839.*

1. With reference to our despatch dated the 23d ultimo, on the subject of the mission lately sent to England by his Highness the Raja of Sattara, we beg to transmit to your Honourable Committee copy of a letter from the Resident at Sattara, dated the 29th ultimo, forwarding translations of certain extracts of letters transmitted to the Raja from Bombay on the subject.

2. On a perusal of these documents, your Honourable Committee will perceive that, notwithstanding the intimation* made to Dr. Milne on the 6th February last, that under the instructions of the Right Honourable the Governor General of India, and as the subject and pensioner of the British Government, he should refrain from any farther communication whatever, either directly or indirectly, with the Raja of Sattara or with his agents, he still continues in communication with his Highness by means of Rungoba, one of the Raja's agents in Bombay; and it would further appear, that Dr. Milne has written to Mr. McDonald to assist this mission on their arrival in England.

3. Although M. de ——— did not, as appears to have been originally intended, accompany the mission from the Raja, which, as reported in our despatch, dated the 23d March last, left Bombay for England on the 19th of the same month in the merchant vessel *Reliance*, bound to Liverpool, still from the enclosure (No. 7) to the Resident's present letter, it may be inferred that the Raja still has it in contemplation to despatch that person also to Europe.

4. In the twentieth to the twenty-third paragraphs of our despatch dated 25th February 1839, we reported to your Honourable Committee, that it had been brought to our notice, that Captain Cogan, since his arrival in Bombay, as her Majesty's Plenipotentiary to his Highness the Imam of Muscat, had mixed himself up with the intrigues of the Raja of Sattara; and with our subsequent despatch, dated the 14th ultimo, we forwarded copy of the letter which we caused to be addressed by our Political Secretary to that gentleman, on the subject, and of his reply to that communication, in the second paragraph of which he admits that he had been visited by parties representing themselves as subjects of the Raja of Sattara, but affords no explanation of the nature and objects of their communications, and which, for certain reasons stated in our last-mentioned despatch, we have not deemed it expedient to call for.

5. We now beg to transmit copy of a further letter from the Resident at Sattara,

* *Vide* third paragraph of our despatch, dated 6th February, No. 6 of 1837.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Secret Letter from
Bombay.
13 April 1839.

Sattara, dated the 4th instant, No. 22, containing such additional information as he has been able to obtain on the subject, and to which we beg to draw the particular attention of your Honourable Committee.

6. We have forwarded a copy of the Resident's letter to the Right Honourable the Governor General of India, and although we consider the conduct of Captain Cogan to be placed in a still more doubtful light than before, as connected with these intrigues, still we shall not, until furnished with instructions from his Lordship or from your Honourable Committee, adopt any further proceedings in the case than those which we have already reported.

7. We next beg to draw the attention of your Honourable Committee to two letters from the Resident at Sattara, dated the 4th and 26th January last, forwarding *yads* from the Raja on the subject of an inquiry stated to be carrying on by his Highness, regarding certain forged papers alleged to have been discovered at Sattara.

8. It would appear to be the intention of the Raja to endeavour to prove that these papers were forged at the suggestion, and by the concurrence of certain officers of the British Government, in order that a charge of treason might be fixed upon his Highness.

9. As there seems reason to expect that the circumstances now brought to notice will be attempted to be made use of by the Raja and his party in refutation of the authenticity of the documents, which have been obtained under circumstances which leave no doubt of their being authentic, we have requested Colonel Ovens to continue to exert his best endeavours to obtain such information as may tend to the establishment of substantial justice, when the affair comes under final inquiry.

10. In a letter from the Resident, dated the 25th February last, that officer forwarded translation of a *yad* from Appa Sahib, the Raja's brother, expressing his apprehension of violence being exercised towards himself and his officers, by his brother the Raja of Sattara.

11. From this communication it appeared, that the danger in which Appa Sahib and those who have given evidence in the case of his Highness the Raja are placed, is occasioned by the information sent home having been communicated to his Highness by his correspondents in Bombay, derived from parties with whom they are in communication in England.

12. The only course which suggested itself to this Government, as a really effective one for the protection of Appa Sahib and others, was that, on the Raja committing any open act of a glaring nature, or such as to endanger the lives of those who have fallen under his Highness's anger for the part they have had in these transactions, immediately to place the Raja under restraint, and to deprive him of all authority, placing the administration of the affairs of his state in the hands of the Resident, pending the decision of the Right Honourable the Governor General of India, or the Honourable the Court of Directors, to whom the Raja's case is under reference.

13. We immediately forwarded a copy of the Resident's letter to the Right Honourable the Governor General of India, accompanied by an expression of our views on this subject, and soliciting the instructions of his Lordship as to the course to be pursued, in the event of Appa Sahib throwing himself on the Resident's protection, or the Raja molesting any of the other witnesses.

14. In the mean time, we directed Colonel Ovens to adopt the most efficient means in his power to afford protection to Appa Sahib, his officers, and all other witnesses, should such prove requisite, but to use his best endeavours to avoid such a contingency.

15. In reply to this reference, on the 18th ultimo, his Lordship observed, that he is in communication with the Honourable the President in Council of Fort William, whom he has consulted on the Sattara question, and that, as a reference has been made to the Home Authorities, he is very desirous to avoid bringing matters to a crisis with the Raja, before he has ascertained the sentiments

ments of the President in Council, and before he can receive instructions from England as to the course to be pursued with respect to the Raja.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

16. Meanwhile his Lordship stated his opinion, that in the event of absolute violence being attempted against Appa Sahib or the other witnesses, they will be entitled to the full protection of the British Government, and that he therefore entirely approves of the instructions addressed by us to the Resident, mentioned in the 15th paragraph of this despatch.

Secret Letter from
Bombay,
18 April 1839.

17. In conclusion, his Lordship observed that the Resident at Sattara did not, in his letter of the 25th February, anticipate a necessity for so extreme a measure as that of removing the Raja from power, with a view to the effectual protection of the witnesses against him, and that his Lordship does not apprehend that such a necessity can arise; but that, if requisite, the Raja should be given distinctly to understand, that any act of violence towards those persons must be viewed by the British Government as affording in itself the most signal presumption of his guilt, as wholly depriving him of all claim to its consideration; and which warning, it might be presumed, will be sufficient to restrain his Highness from serious outrage.

18. On the 11th March the Resident reported, that he had, for the present, persuaded Appa Sahib to give up his intention of placing himself under the protection of the British Government; though, from what he could learn, he feared that ultimately this step would be unavoidable, should no speedy settlement of affairs at Sattara be made.

19. Colonel Ovans further observed, that situated as Appa Sahib now is, it is evident that he may be forced to leave the town without being able to make any previous arrangement, and without, as he himself says, either retinue or baggage; and referred for the instructions of Government, as to the expediency of his insisting on his personal effects being given up to Appa Sahib, should any opposition to this be made by the Raja.

20. We conceive that we are bound to insist, that the personal property of Appa Sahib shall not be interfered with. To which effect we made an intimation to the Right Hon. the Governor General, on the receipt of the Resident's letter; at the same time observing, that we doubted not that the instructions of his Lordship (which have since been received, as mentioned in paragraphs fifteen and seventeen of this despatch), as to the course to be observed in this case, would enable us to act more effectually for the protection of Appa Sahib.

21. The Resident at Sattara was, at the same time, informed of the reference made to the Right Honourable the Governor General on the subject of his letter.

22. In his letter dated the 24th ult., No. 17, the Resident reports that Appa Sahib, accompanied by two of his confidential officers, Bujaba Purarkar and Eswant Rao Foujdars, proceeded on the same day to the Residency and claimed the protection of the British Government, and explained, on his arrival there, that his sole reason for taking this step was to preserve his life, which he considered was in danger, and that his only request was, that he should not be delivered up to his brother.

23. Colonel Ovans immediately assured Appa Sahib of protection against personal violence, and furnished him with a suitable guard to insure his safety.

24. Our previous instructions to the Resident seemed to provide for the contingency; to which effect we informed that officer, with a request that he would give Appa Sahib all the protection in his power.

25. In a further letter from Colonel Ovans, dated the 26th ultimo, that officer reports, that Appa Sahib has taken up his residence in tents, within a short distance of the Sattara residency; and states that, in consequence of a reference made by him, as to the necessity of his employing some sebundies for the protection of his property, he had advised him not to entertain a greater number than may be absolutely requisite for the actual protection of his property.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Secret Letter from
Bombay,
13 April 1839.

perty. This advice appears to us to have been very judicious, and has accordingly been approved by us.

26. In forwarding our further proceedings in this case to the Right Honourable the Governor General of India, we have observed that Appa Sahib having hitherto received an allowance from the Raja of Sattara of 6,000 rupees per mensem for his support, it appears to this Government but just that the same should be continued by his Highness; but that, upon this point, we are desirous of being favoured with the instructions of his Lordship.

We have, &c.

(Signed) J. FARISH,
G. W. ANDERSON.

Bombay Castle,
13th April 1839.

Secret Letter from
Bombay,
15 April 1839.

SECRET LETTER FROM BOMBAY,

Dated 15th of April, No. 47 of 1839.

1. In two letters from the agent for Sirdars in the Deccan, dated the 14th and 16th July last, that officer forwarded copy of a correspondence between himself and the Commissioner at Bittoor, relative to certain individuals suspected of having been deputed from the latter place to the Deccan, on some political mission on the part of Bajee Rao, the ex-Peishwa.

2. As some of the individuals alleged to be favouring the objects of this mission resided in the territories under the superintendence of the Resident at Sattara and of the Political Agent in the Southern Mahratta country, we immediately forwarded copy of the Agent's letters to those authorities, with instructions to keep a strict watch over the proceedings of the suspected individuals, and to report to Government their movements.

3. The Resident at Sattara replied to this reference on the 25th July last, from which it appeared that the individuals noted in the margin*, supposed to form this mission, had left Sattara only a few days previously, but that no traces of them could for the present be discovered; but the Resident stated, that he would keep a vigilant watch over their movements, should they return to that part of the country.

4. The Political Agent in the Southern Mahratta country replied to our reference on the 3d October 1838, from which it appeared that the individuals suspected of forming this mission had visited Poona and Sattara in the early part of the year, and had frequent interviews with the Raja, and were then staying at Nurgood, near Dharwar, but that it was believed that they intended shortly to return to Sattara and Poona.

5. We forwarded copies of these proceedings to the Right Honourable the Governor General of India, with a request that we might be favoured with the sentiments of his Lordship, as to whether he considered the proofs obtained by the Commissioner at Bittoor against these persons sufficient to justify the adoption of any measures against them, and whether they should be apprehended, and a search made for any papers which might be in their possession.

6. We forwarded copy of the Political Agent's report for the information of the Resident at Sattara, and directed the former officer narrowly to watch the movements and proceedings of the individuals above-mentioned, and authorized him, should he be of opinion that, by the employment of confidential agents, he could discover the real objects of these people, and the measures pursued by them, to adopt such a course, reporting the result for the information of Government.

7. In

* 1. Venkut Rao, 2. Abba Abheyung Kur, 3. The Bramcharee, 4. Damother Shastree.

7. In reply to the reference made to the Right Honourable the Governor General of India, his Lordship stated his opinion, that the proofs obtained against these individuals would hardly seem to be sufficient to warrant the adoption of any measures of severity towards them.

8. Copy of this reply was forwarded to the Resident at Sattara, and to the Political Agent in the Southern Mahratta country.

9. On the 8th September last, the Agent for Sirdars in the Deccan submitted translation of a *yad* presented to him by a person named Neelkunt, the accredited agent of Junardhun Narrain Deshpanday, a Sirdar of the third class, and of letters therein alluded to, to the address of the ex-Peishwa, concerning the construction of a *ghaut** on the banks of the Krishna, at the village of Mahalec, near Sattara, and which latter documents the Sirdar requested might be forwarded through the Agent to Bajee Rao.

10. In forwarding this communication, the Agent for Sirdars observed, that as this charitable work would, if completed, be of considerable advantage to the community, he begged to solicit the orders of Government, either to frank the envelope containing the letters above-mentioned to the address of Bajee Rao, or to forward them to the Commissioner at Bittoor, provided the Raja of Sattara had no objection to allow the ex-Peishwa to construct the intended building within his Highness's territory, or if no impediment of a political nature existed.

11. The subject having been referred by us to the Resident at Sattara, that officer, in reply, referred to his letter dated the 25th July 1838, in which he had stated his opinion, that Junardhun Narrain Deshpanday (the writer of the present letters to Bajee Rao) was connected with the political mission supposed to be carried on by the ex-Peishwa with the Deccan.

12. The Resident observed, that the translation of the letter from this person to the address of the ex-Peishwa, now forwarded, fully confirmed those particulars, since it was therein stated, that the writer had been at Bittoor with his Highness the ex-Peishwa; that he had lately quitted Shewapoor and arrived at Sattara; that he had an interview with his Highness the Chutturputtee, and had besought him on the subject (of the ghaut); that his Highness said, that should Rajashree Rao complete the ghaut, it would impart much joy and pleasure to him (the Chutturputtee), and that he would not in any way obstruct the execution of the work.

13. Colonel Ovens remarked that, as regards this singular statement, it would doubtless occur to Government, that if the ex-Peishwa had any communication to make at Sattara, such communication should have been made through the regular channels of the Commissioner and the Resident respectively, that no agent should have been sent direct, and that the Raja of Sattara was not authorized to receive the visit of any such agent, or to have any direct communication with him, except under the sanction of the British Government. "So little, however," continued Colonel Ovens, "are the engagements by which his Highness is bound now attended to, that, as I before reported, this interview and its objects have never been alluded to by his Highness, even although the Agent is now at this place, and in the habit of constant intercourse with the Raja."

13 A. This person, Colonel Ovens further stated, is not only a British subject, but a pensioner of the British Government and a Sirdar of the third class, is an inhabitant of Shewapoor, a village about six coss from Poona, and quite unconnected with Sattara; and that it therefore became difficult to conceive what inducement he could have to enter into such an undertaking as the present.

14. Colonel Ovens doubted the expediency, at the present time, of reviving the recollection of Bajee Rao at Sattara, or to permit him to renew his connections with that country, particularly as the plan suggested would afford a pretext

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Secret Letter from
Bombay, 15 April 1839.

* Stone stairs.

† Vide paragraph 3 of this despatch.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Secret Letter from
Bombay,
15 April 1839

a pretext for constant and direct private communications, even if the construction of the Ghaut and Dhurmsalla should be the sole object of this application. But, he stated, he must beg to express his doubts as to such being the sole object; and that he was supported in this view by the opinion of a person well versed in Mahratta intrigue, and personally well acquainted with the ex-Peishwa himself, who decidedly stated, that he perceived reason to distrust both the matter and manner of these papers.

15. On the receipt of Colonel Ovens's report, we referred for the instructions of the Right Honourable the Governor General of India as to the course to be adopted on this occasion, with an observation, that, in our opinion, the circumstances which had transpired were exceedingly suspicious, and that the Raja of Sattara holding direct communication with an adherent of Bajee Rao's, can be regarded in no other light than as a breach of his treaty with the British Government.

16. In reply, his Lordship stated, that the deputation on the part of the ex-Peishwa to the Raja of Sattara appeared to be of so irregular and improper a form as to demand some special notice to be taken of it, both to the one and the other of these chiefs, and therefore requested that we would use our discretion, in pointing out to the Raja of Sattara, through the Resident at his Court, that when proper channels of communication are available to persons of high rank in the position of himself and the ex-Peishwa, through the British Agents respectively deputed to them, secret and unauthorized intercourse, by means of inferior persons, must be considered by his Lordship not only as disreputable, but as highly inexpedient and improper.

17. This, his Lordship observed, is more particularly the case as regards the ex-Peishwa, with whom the Raja of Sattara should be doubly careful as to how he communicates, as all correspondence with one so situated should, on the part of a potentate protected by, and wholly dependent on, the British Government, be conducted in so honest and ingenuous a manner, as to obviate the possibility of displeasure on the part of the paramount powers.

18. We entertained doubts as to whether any advantage would arise at the present moment from making a communication to the Raja, of the nature mentioned by his Lordship, and we therefore requested the opinion of Colonel Ovens as to the expediency, or otherwise, of such a measure.

19. Colonel Ovens in reply, stated that he was doubtful whether, at this time it would be expedient to address his Highness on the subject, or whether any good result would follow, unless we were prepared at once to take decided steps to enforce the sentiments expressed by the Right Honourable the Governor General, and to prove to the Raja, that if he perseveres in such irregular communications, the full penalty, as fixed by treaty, will be inflicted.

20. Had this been the only instance in which his Highness had departed from the spirit and letter of his engagements with the British Government, Colonel Ovens was of opinion that the communication pointed out would have been highly expedient, and, no doubt, would have led to the best results; but observed, that when it is considered that the Raja, setting aside all his engagements with us, now acts on a systematic defiance of the British Government and its officers, and does not hesitate to avow openly his hostile sentiments; and when, in addition to this, it is recollected that so many other grave and serious charges, affecting the very existence of his government, are at this moment hanging over him, he ventured to submit, that the communication suggested by the Right Honourable the Governor General, but left to the discretion of this Government, had better be delayed until it can be effectually followed up by such steps as it may be in our power to take, should a reply, couched in the usual tone of defiance now assumed by the Sattara Government, be returned.

21. We were of opinion that the views expressed by Colonel Ovens were entitled to great consideration, and we determined, in virtue of the discretionary power which had been vested in this Government by the Governor General,

ral, to delay, pending a further reference to his Lordship, making any communication to the Raja on this subject.

22. We are happy to state, that in a letter from the Secretary with the Right Honourable the Governor General of India, dated the 14th ultimo, his Lordship records his full approval of our resolution of abstaining from making any intimation to the Raja on the subject of his correspondence with the ex-Peishwa, and expresses his hope that at no distant period, he will be put in possession of the views of the home authorities, as to the course to be adopted with the Raja, and, in the mean time, agrees with this Government in the propriety of abstaining from remonstrance which we are not prepared to follow up with measures of coercion, in case of our counsel being neglected, and our authority set at defiance.

23. The whole of the proceedings connected with this subject are forwarded with this despatch, and we trust that the measures we have adopted on this occasion will be approved by your Honourable Committee.

We have, &c.

(Signed)

J. FARISH,

G. W. ANDERSON.

Bombay,
15th April 1839.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Secret Letter from
Bombay.
15 April 1839.

SECRET LETTER FROM MR. SECRETARY WILLOUGHBY TO MR. SECRETARY MELVILL.

Dated 16th April (O) 1839

SIR,

I. With reference to the fourth and sixth paragraphs of the government despatch to the address of the Honourable the Secret Committee, No 43, dated the 13th instant, regarding the conduct of Captain Cogan, in having mixed himself up with the Sattara intrigues since his arrival in Bombay, as her Majesty's Commissioner to the Court of his Highness the Sultan of Muscat, I am directed by the Honourable the Governor in Council to transmit to you, for delivery to the Honourable the Secret Committee, the enclosed packet, containing the copy of a communication from the Secretary in attendance on the Right Honourable the Governor General of India, dated the 20th ultimo, expressing the concurrence of his Lordship in the views taken by this Government of the matter.

As the steamer *Hugh Lindsay* leaves Bombay this evening, the Governor in Council trusts that the Honourable the Secret Committee will excuse the irregular mode in which this letter is forwarded.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

J. P. WILLOUGHBY,

Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle,
16th April 1839.

Secret Letter
from Bombay,
Sec. Willoughby to
Sec. Melvill,
16 April 1839.

SECRET LETTER FROM BOMBAY,

Dated 8th May, No. 56 of 1839.

With reference to our despatch, dated the 13th ultimo, No. 43, relative to the Native Mission deputed to England by his Highness the Raja of Sattara, we do ourselves the honour to transmit herewith copy of a further communication from the Resident at his Highness's Court dated the 25th ultimo, No. 24, from which your Honourable Committee will perceive, that a Mahomedan Moonshee, named Wussee Oalla, with one companion and a servant, embarked on board the Honourable Company's steamer *Hugh Lindsay*, which vessel left Bombay for Suez on the 16th ultimo, and that his Highness has furnished the Moonshee with funds to enable him to proceed to England, for the purpose of making

Secret Letter from
Bombay,
8 May 1839.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Secret Letter from
Bombay,
8 May 1839.

making certain communications to Meer Afzul Ally, Agent of his Highness, now residing there.

Bombay Castle,
8th May 1839.

We have, &c.

(Signed)

J. FARISH,
G. W. ANDERSON.

Secret Letter from
Bombay,
12 Sept. 1839.

SECRET LETTER FROM BOMBAY.

Dated 12th September, No. 106 of 1839.

1. With reference to your Honourable Committee's letter dated the 22d January last, directing that the final disposal of the case of the Raja of Sattara should be deferred until the arrival of the Honourable Sir J. R. Carnac, we have now the honour to report our proceedings in connection with this case from the 1st June last, the date on which our newly-appointed Governor assumed charge of the Government of this Presidency.

2. We request the particular attention of your Honourable Committee to two minutes, dated the 19th and 20th June last, recorded by our President. In the first of these, after stating his conviction that the Raja's guilt has been fully proved, our President alluded to three different modes of disposing of the case, and explained his reasons for desiring that the last should be adopted, viz., that on certain conditions an amnesty should be granted to the Raja for the past. For the reasons therein assigned, and in deference to what we presumed are the wishes of your Honourable Committee, this proposition was cordially assented to by both the Civil Members of this Government.

3. In his second minute our President submitted his sentiments respecting the mode in which he conceived the lenient intentions of the British Government towards the Raja ought to be carried into effect. The basis of the proposed settlement was, that all further discussions of the Raja's case should terminate; that we should abstain from any demand that could be justly considered penal; and that we should only impose such conditions on the Raja as would place him in the precise condition intended by the treaty of 1819, and as would ensure efficient protection to such of his subjects as had, in the course of these discussions, become obnoxious to him. In these propositions we also cordially concurred.

4. These proceedings were, without delay, forwarded for the consideration and sanction of the Right Honourable the Governor General of India, and were entirely approved of by his Lordship, in a letter from Mr. Secretary Maddock dated the 12th July, copy of which accompanies this despatch.

5. In the meantime, however, we received a letter from his Lordship, forwarding for our information copies of minutes recorded by the President and Members of the Government of India on the Raja of Sattara's case, unanimously concurring in opinion that his guilt had been conclusively established, and that his offences against the British Government were too serious to be overlooked, and that he should be deposed, and his territories annexed to the British Indian Empire.

6. The receipt of this communication did not induce us to alter the line of policy which we had previously determined to pursue; but we request the attention of your Honourable Committee to these important documents, as containing the deliberate opinions of the highest authorities in India on the Raja's proceedings; and we would, at the same time, beg leave respectfully to refer your Honourable Committee to the opinions of the Right Honourable the Governor General of India on the same subject, recorded in his minutes dated the 23d September and 29th December 1838, copies of which were forwarded with our despatches dated the 20th October last, No. 31, and 31st January, No. 11, of 1839.

7. On

SATTARA
PAPERS.Secret Letter fr
Bombay,
12 Sept. 1839

7. On the receipt of the Governor General's sanction to the proposed mode of procedure, our President lost no time in proceeding in person to Sattara, for the purpose of endeavouring to carry his views into effect, and to restore friendly relations between the two states; and we now beg to solicit the attentive consideration of your Honourable Committee to a minute, dated the 4th instant, just received, in which he has recorded in detail the whole of his proceedings, and which, we regret to state, terminated in the Raja deliberately rejecting the moderate terms offered to him, his consequent deposal, and the proclaiming of his brother as his successor.

8. Throughout these proceedings our President had the advantage of the Honourable Mr. Anderson's able counsel and advice. This gentleman had been obliged to proceed to the Deccan on account of his health, and was thus enabled to accompany our President; the whole of whose proceedings met with his general acquiescence and support. On this subject, we beg to refer to the seventeenth and concluding paragraphs of our President's minute.

9. For a detail of what occurred at Sattara, we beg to refer your Honourable Committee to the 18th paragraph of our President's minute, from which it will be observed that three interviews occurred between the Raja and the Governor, and four between the Raja and the Resident. At all these the most earnest and strenuous efforts were made to induce the Raja to accept the amnesty on the lenient terms proposed; and, at the last, he was explicitly informed of the consequences which would ensue on his rejecting them. We lament to state, that all these efforts to make the Raja sensible of the dangers of his situation proved unavailing, and our President in consequence was reluctantly compelled to return to Poona.

10. For the nature of the terms thus rejected by the Raja, we beg to refer to the 21st paragraph of our President's minute. We are satisfied that your Honourable Committee will concur with us in opinion, that they are drawn up in a spirit of great moderation, and that they contain no stipulation which the British Government could, without a sacrifice of its reputation, forego or recede from, and none which the Raja ought to have felt any difficulty in agreeing to, had he intended hereafter to act up in good faith to the treaty of 1819, by which he was, of course, previously bound. Our President's remarks on these conditions will be found in the twenty-second paragraph of his minutes; but we beg to solicit your Honourable Committee's attention to the following passage: "I am, however, convinced, that it was the first of my conditions which was the most unpalatable to his Highness and the chief bar to his assent; for to it his objections appeared to be chiefly directed at our several interviews, for he asserted, that he refused to sign the original treaty from which it is taken three different times; and significantly remarked to the President, that assenting to it would reduce him to the condition of a Mamlutdar, manager or farmer of a district. What, may I ask, was this, but a formal renunciation, on his part, of a most important condition of the existing treaty; and how is it possible for us to maintain friendly relations with a prince who so much mistakes his real position, and thinks so lightly of the obligations which he has contracted, and under which he holds his territories?"

11. We now beg to solicit the attention of your Honourable Committee to the twenty-fourth paragraph of our President's minute, wherein he has, in our opinion, satisfactorily shewn that the line of policy which he adopted towards the Raja was the best, under all the circumstances; that the objections and difficulties to the plan of subjecting him to a formal trial before a Commission were insurmountable; and that the uncontrovertible nature of the evidence obtained against the Raja rendered this measure altogether supererogatory.

12. In the succeeding paragraphs, our President first shews that he was vested with full powers to act on this painful occasion, and states his reasons why he determined at once to do so, under the general authority of the Right Honourable the Governor General, conveyed in Mr. Secretary Maddock's letter, of the 12th July last.

**SATTARA
PAPERS.**
—
**Secret Letter from
Bombay,
13 Sept. 1839.**

13. The arrangement finally resolved on and carried into effect, was the deposal of the Raja, and the preservation of the integrity of the Sattara State in the person of his brother, the next in succession. In the twenty-sixth paragraph, our President details his reasons for adopting this course, in preference to that of resuming the Sattara territories and annexing them to our own. On this important part of the question we are willing to concede that opinions may be divided; but we have no hesitation in stating our own conviction, that our President's arrangement, under the actual state of the case, was the best and most expedient that could have been adopted, but that, in the event of its being deemed impolitic, an opportunity will, in all human probability, present itself in a few years, for rectifying what may be deemed erroneous.

14. The policy having been determined on, it next became necessary to decide in whose favour, and on what conditions, it should be carried into effect; and upon this part of the subject we would refer your Honourable Committee to the twenty-seventh and twenty-eighth paragraphs of our President's minute. Your Honourable Committee are aware that the Raja's brother, in the month of March last, apprehending that his life was in danger, threw himself on the protection of the British Government, under the circumstances reported in our despatch dated the 13th April last. Of the character of this prince but little is known; but, as our President has remarked, he was the only person on whom the sovereignty could have been conferred, since no one else possesses any claim; and we trust that, warned by the example of his brother, he will be induced to act according to treaty, and enable us to maintain the alliance between the two States in the manner contemplated by that treaty.

15. The conditions under which the new Raja has been recognized are only four in number, and secure no advantages to the British Government which it is not already entitled to; except that the second and third prevent subjects of future collision, and were required in consequence of the unreasonable pretensions set up by the late Raja, and the disputes which have for some years past existed between him and his Jagheerdars. This arrangement, while it secures to the Raja the same service and pecuniary payments which he was before entitled to, will, we conceive, promote future harmony and good understanding between the two Governments.

16. Although no apprehensions existed that open resistance and opposition would be offered, nevertheless our President, being of opinion that on these occasions, ample means should be provided to overcome resistance, and thus to avoid tumult and bloodshed, deemed it desirable, on his return to Poona, to direct a reinforcement of troops, to the extent noticed in the thirtieth paragraph of his minute, to march to Sattara, and to direct the Resident to delay acting on the instructions until their arrival.

17. It was further deemed advisable to issue a proclamation on this occasion, briefly reciting the circumstances which have compelled the British Government to dethrone the Raja. A copy of this document will be found in the Appendix to our President's minute (marked D, No. 1); and we only deem it requisite to observe, that we consider that it is exceedingly well calculated to prevent the motives and conduct of the British Government being misconstrued and misrepresented.

18. It is to us a source of the highest satisfaction now to be able to inform your Honourable Committee, that the whole of these arrangements were successfully carried into effect by the Resident, Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans, on the morning of the 5th instant, without collision or disturbance of any kind.

19. We beg to refer your Honourable Committee, for further particulars, to the Resident's report of his proceedings, forming an accompaniment to this despatch, and to our President's minute thereon, recording the high sense he entertains of the judgment, discretion, and firmness displayed by Lieutenant Colonel Ovans in the performance of the delicate and important duties confided to him, and of the consideration and indulgence extended by him to the Raja; in which sentiments we most cordially concur. We need not assure your Honourable

Honourable Committee, that the utmost attention will continue to be paid to the personal comfort and convenience of the ex-Raja and his family.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Secret Letter fr-
Bombay,
12 Sept. 1838

* 20. We now solicit the attention of your Honourable Committee to that portion of our President's minute (paragraphs 33 to 41), wherein he has endeavoured to trace the causes which occasioned the failure in accomplishing the objects of his visit to Sattara, and the consequent downfall of the Raja. These are chiefly two: first, the Raja's character; and second, his reliance on the numerous agencies he has established both in this country and in England.

21. In regard to the first, our President has most justly observed: "From the day we seated the Raja on the throne, we have discovered that he was a disappointed and dissatisfied prince, inflated with wild and extravagant notions of his own importance, ambitious to extend his dominions, and constantly occupied in the most absurd and ridiculous intrigues with the view of effecting his purpose." This view is then supported by the most respectable testimonies: by that of Captain Grant Duff: by that of Colonel Briggs, delivered in language almost prophetic upwards of twelve years ago: by reference to the evidence afforded in the "Historical Sketch" forwarded to the Governor General of India by the Raja's own advocate, Dr. Milne; and lately, by the fact that his Highness has of late permitted himself to be addressed by the imperial title of "Hindu Pad-padsha Sirkar," or king of the Hindoos. In further elucidation of the Raja's character, we request your Honourable Committee to refer to the eighty-seventh paragraph of the late Sir Robert Grant's minute dated the 15th May 1838, and to the eleventh and following paragraphs of that dated the 31st of May, forwarded with our despatches dated the 19th May and 1st June, Nos. 3 and 6 of 1838.

22. With respect to the second cause, our President has adduced ample proofs. With regard to Dr. Milne, we deem it right to observe that, although at an early period of these proceedings, he was permitted by the Governor General of India to become the Raja's advocate, such permission was, in consequence of his intemperate conduct, subsequently withdrawn; but that the correspondence intercepted by the Resident at Sattara proves that, in defiance of his Lordship's explicit prohibition, he has continued actively to engage in these proceedings, and has latterly suggested to the Raja to prepare to send another mission to England. On the subject of this gentleman's conduct, we beg to refer to our despatch to your Honourable Committee dated the 5th September 1838.

23. In elucidation of Captain Cogan's proceedings, we annex copy of a letter which was received from that gentleman dated the 23d of July, and of our reply thereto, regarding the invitation which he received from the Raja to visit him at Sattara. In connexion with this, we solicit attention to the version afforded of this transaction in the intercepted correspondence (Appendices E and F) forwarded by Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans, with his letters of the 8th and 31st ultimo, and we shall leave it to your Honourable Committee to draw your own conclusions on the subject. We shall merely add, that there appears to us to be no doubt whatever of the authenticity of this correspondence. We had not the slightest reason for believing, from the report which our President made in Council of his interview with Captain Cogan on the 24th July last, when he delivered the Raja's letter unopened, that that officer, as the Raja's agent, had been in any way a party in procuring it.

24. We beg also to refer to the thirty-ninth paragraph of the minute, shewing that the Raja's agents have resorted to the public press, to inspire him with confidence in the success of his exertions to resist and defy the local authorities in India. And on this point, also, we request that a reference may be made to our despatch dated the 5th September 1838 to your Honourable Committee, pointing out how grossly the freedom of the press has been abused in the case of the Raja of Sattara.

25. It is by these means, we are of opinion, that our President was foiled in his endeavours to awaken the Raja to a just sense of the dangers of his position; and we entirely concur with him in opinion, that if these are allowed to continue in operation, "either the authority of the Governments of this

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Secret Letter from
Bombay,
12 Sept. 1839.

"country will be entirely undermined, or, in a few years, there will not be a single Native State left in India." The same opinion, as remarked by our President, has been recorded by the late Sir John Malcolm, one of the most eminent of our Indian functionaries.

26. With regard to the future residence of the ex-Raja, and the allowances to be assigned for the support of himself and family, our President has suggested a reference to the Right Honourable the Governor General of India; at the same time stating, that he is of opinion that he should be removed, either to Benares, or to some suitable place within the Madras territory, and that from one lack to one lack and twenty-five thousand rupees should be paid to him from the Sattara revenues.

27. We beg to draw your Honourable Committee's attention to the fifteenth paragraph of our President's minute, recording the high sense he entertains of the cordial co-operation, and the valuable information which he received throughout these proceedings from the Resident, Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens, who, we are of opinion, has, during the whole of the discussions on the Sattara case, exhibited that degree of sound judgment, unwearied industry, firmness, and decision, under circumstances of extraordinary difficulty, which cannot fail to secure to him the highest approbation of the superior authorities.

28. The high and justly merited commendation bestowed in the forty-eighth paragraph of our President's minute upon the valuable services of Mr. Wilmoughby will, we are persuaded, secure for that able public servant your marked approbation.

29. Since Mr. Anderson has returned to the Presidency he has briefly recorded his opinion of the transactions at Sattara, now reported; to which we beg to refer your Honourable Committee, as well as to a minute recorded by the Honourable Mr. Farish, expressing his cordial concurrence in the whole course of proceedings which has been ably followed out.

30. In conclusion, we cannot refrain from expressing our high admiration of our Honourable President's proceedings. His earnest wish and desire to save the Raja were undoubted, and the moderation and forbearance which he exercised towards this unfortunate prince, as long as any hope remained of his yielding to the few conditions imposed on him, were only equalled by the promptitude and decision of his measures after that hope had become extinguished.

We have, &c.

(Signed)

JAMES FARISH,
G. W. ANDERSON.

Bombay Castle,
12th September 1839.

Secret Letter from
Bombay,
7 Oct. 1839.

SECRET LETTER FROM BOMBAY,

Dated 7th October, No. 114 of 1839.

1. In our despatch dated the 12th ultimo, No. 106, we had the honour to report, in detail, the measures which our President had found it necessary to adopt at Sattara, and we now beg to report to your Honourable Committee our subsequent proceedings in connection with that Government.

2. As an accompaniment to this despatch, we forward copy of a letter to Mr. Secretary Maddock, dated the 18th ultimo, transmitting for the consideration of the Right Honourable the Governor General of India our President's minute of his proceedings at Sattara, and requesting his Lordship's instructions regarding the future residence of the ex-Raja.

3. Immediately after his return to Poona, our President issued instructions for the release of Govind Row, Dewan, and the Bramin Untajee, who were confined as state prisoners, for having tampered with the Native officers of the Twenty-third Regiment.

4. The

SATTARA
PAPERS.Secret Letter f.
Bombay,
7 Oct. 1859.

4. The Resident at Sattara was, at the same time, requested to report whether Bulwunt Row Chitnavees might not also be released; and that officer having replied in the affirmative, he has been released accordingly, with an intimation that he will not be permitted to return to Sattara without the previous sanction of the British Government.

5. On the 23d ultimo the Resident reported, that the whole of the persons implicated in the ex-Raja's intrigues, in confinement at Sattara, had been released, and that all the witnesses had been permitted to return home.

6. In consequence of the tranquil aspect of affairs at Sattara, the whole of the troops detached to that place have returned to Poona; with the exception of a detachment of Native Infantry and a small detail of Irregular Horse, required to guard the ex-Raja.

7. In a letter dated the 23d ultimo, the Resident called our attention to a gross libel published in the *Bombay Gazette* of the 20th ultimo, against the present Raja of Sattara, to the effect that, on the day of his installation, he was so drunk as to require being carried on a board to his palace by four men. We solicit the attention of your Honourable Committee to this communication, and to the remarks of Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens on this calumnious statement, for which there is not the slightest foundation.

8. We entertain no doubt that this libel is actionable in a court of law, but we question the expediency of instituting legal proceedings against the paper in which it has appeared. We deem it, however, our duty to bring it to the special notice of your Honourable Committee.

9. We deem it also proper, at the same time, to request your attention to the libellous character of several articles which have been recently published in the *Gazette* on the Sattara case, generally; and more particularly to an inflammatory letter which appeared in that paper of the 20th ultimo, under the signature of "A Native Politician." On this subject the Resident has remarked as follows: "The profits reaped by some of the principal agents of the *Gazette* from the late intrigues are now at an end, and therefore it is natural enough they should be disappointed at the new order of things: yet it remains for Government to decide whether this paper shall be permitted to disseminate such malignant libels with impunity, implicating, as they indirectly do, the character of the British Government itself."

10. The favourable testimony borne to the character of the present Raja in the eighth paragraph of the Resident's despatch, cannot fail to afford satisfaction to your Honourable Committee.

11. In a letter dated the 24th ultimo, the Resident reported that the Raja had issued the three following proclamations:—

The first, abolishing the practice of suttee within his dominions:

The second, discontinuing the levy of transit duties within his territory:

The third, declaring the Company's coinage current within his territory.

12. The abolition of *suttee* within the limits of the Sattara State, in which heretofore it has been so painfully prevalent, will be hailed with satisfaction by your Honourable Committee and by every friend of humanity. We entertain no doubt that the Raja resolved on this measure, from the knowledge which he possesses of the abhorrence with which the inhuman rite of suttee is held by the British Government; but it will be as satisfactory to your Honourable Committee as it has been to us, to be informed that the act was entirely spontaneous on the Raja's part, and consequently reflects the greater credit on him. On this subject the Resident reports as follows:—"In justice to the Raja, I deem it incumbent on me to state, that the abolition of the rite of suttee was entirely voluntary on the part of his Highness. After stating to me personally, that he was aware of the light in which this rite was viewed by the British Government, and the fruitless attempts hitherto made to suppress it here, he declared it to be his intention to follow the example of the British Government in suppressing it, and this declaration he has now fulfilled by public proclamation. After witnessing the harrow-

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Secret Letter from
Bombay,
7 Oct. 1839.

"ing scenes which I have done here, and seeing with my own eyes these
"miserable victims led down to Mahowlee to be sacrificed, and passing the
"gates of the British Residency without the power of interfering, I may, I
"trust, be permitted to express my heartfelt gratification at this complete
"abolition of this horrible rite throughout the whole of this country."

13. We trust that the laudable example thus exhibited by the Raja of Sattara will soon be followed by other Native Chiefs under this Presidency.

14. The abolition of transit duties within the Sattara State is satisfactory, and is in accordance with the tenth article of the Sattara treaty of the 25th September 1819, whereby the Raja is bound to adopt the same system, with regard to customs, as that which may be adopted by the British Government.

15. With regard to the introduction of the Company's coinage, your Honourable Committee will not fail to recognize in this measure a desire, on the part of the Raja, to co-operate in matters of general policy with the British Government.

16. We now beg respectfully to solicit the attention of your Honourable Committee to a despatch which we have received from the Resident of Sattara, dated the 28th ultimo, and to a minute which our President has recorded thereon, containing information of considerable importance regarding the proceedings of the ex-Raja of Sattara.

17. From this despatch your Honourable Committee will learn, that the whole of the original correspondence which has passed between the Raja and Dr. Milne, and other agents in Bombay, is now in the Resident's possession. It is now proved that Dr. Milne first interfered in the Raja's affairs at the very time the Commission was investigating the Raja's conduct in October 1836, and that his interference was spontaneous, and not at the Raja's request.

* * * * *

18. We beg to refer to the seventeenth paragraph of our President's minute, alluding to a letter from Major-General Robertson to Dr. Milne, clearly shewing that the ex-Raja's intercourse with Goa was known in 1827 to the former officer, and was made by him the subject of communication with the late Mr. Nisbet; from which fact it becomes clearly established, that that charge cannot have been fabricated to support the more recent one, of the ex-Raja having tampered with our troops in 1836.

19. We conceive, however, that the most important portion of the correspondence which has come into our possession is that of M. de ———, an adventurer who, your Honourable Committee is aware, came out to Bombay in 1837 in the retinue of the Ambassador of the King of Oude. On this subject our President has remarked as follows:—"I beg particular reference may be made to the paper marked No. 13, designated 'Case of his Royal Highness the King of Sattara as related by himself;' because herein we have, from another independent source, a key to the ex-Raja's infatuated proceedings, namely, that from the first he was dissatisfied; that he considered he had been duped by his best friend, the Honourable Mr. Elphinstone, and was hence predisposed, from the first, to enter into the wild and extravagant plots proved against him."

20. Your Honourable Committee is aware, that the greater portion of this correspondence was formerly intercepted by the Resident, and has been already brought to your notice in our despatches dated as per margin, and to which we now beg to refer; more especially to our remarks regarding the mode in which Dr. Milne has availed himself of the public press, during his advocacy of the ex-Raja's cause.

21.

* * * * *

We earnestly entreat the attention of your Honourable Committee to our President's just and forcible remarks in the twelfth paragraph of his minute, respecting

respecting the evils which will result to the Native Chiefs of India from the interference in their affairs of such irresponsible agents, and if Dr. Milne's interpretation of the terms of the present charter on the subject be correct.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Secret Letter f
Bombay,
7 Oct. 1839

22. We further solicit your attention to accompaniment No. 8 of Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans's despatch, from which it will be perceived that sums, amounting in the aggregate to upwards of three lacs and sixty-three thousand rupees, have already been traced, as having been squandered among the ex-Raja's agents.

23. An important letter has likewise been discovered in corroboration of the ex-Raja's intrigues with Goa. This is commented on by our President in the fourteenth paragraph of his minute—the document establishing two material facts; the first, that the Swamee of Sunkeshwer visited the ex-Raja at Sattara; the second, that Nago Deorao was the agent employed “in the business” in which they were engaged. The intimate knowledge which your Honourable Committee already possess of the particulars of the Goa charge, renders it unnecessary for us to point out in detail, how strongly these two facts confirm the evidence by which the charge was previously supported.

24. In conclusion, we beg to call your attention to the additional proof now furnished by the Resident of the ex-Raja having assumed the imperial title of King of the Hindoos.

We have, &c.

(Signed) J. FARISH,
G. W. ANDERSON.

Bombay Castle
7th October 1839.

SECRET LETTER FROM BOMBAY,

Dated 28th October, No 119 of 1839.

Secret Letter from
Bombay,
28 Oct. 1839.

7. We now beg to request the attention of your Honourable Committee to another letter and enclosures which we have received from the Resident at Sattara, dated the 19th instant.

8. Your Honourable Committee are aware that it was stated by some of the emissaries apprehended at Nellore, that the ex-Raja of Sattara's intrigues extended as far as the Punjaub; and from the evidence of these persons, now forwarded, through whom these intrigues were conducted, there seems to be no doubt that the statement of the Nellore emissaries is substantially correct.

9. With the same letter the Resident has forwarded two documents found in the *dufter*, or records, of the ex-Raja. One of these we conceive to be of considerable importance, nearly the whole of it being in the ex-Raja's own hand-writing, and affording another key to his extraordinary proceedings. It purports to be an estimate of what the ex-Raja considered to be the extent of his *raj*, or dominions, calculated to be of the value of four crores and nineteen lacs and fifty thousand rupees, in which is included the territory belonging to the Guicowar, Scindia, Holkar, Nagpore, and that of various other petty princes. Of this only 51,47,000 was to be continued to them, and 3,68,03,000 were to revert to the ex-Raja eventually, and 53,00,000 immediately on the contemplated arrangements being effected.

10. In reference to this document Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans has remarked: “The other designs in which the ex-Raja is proved to have engaged have been pronounced wild and extravagant; but here we have proof, under his own hand, of designs quite as wild and quite as extravagant as any of those hitherto brought to light, and which show that his mind was fully bent on the realization of schemes of aggrandizement quite incompatible with his position as fixed by the treaty, and subversive of his alliance with the British Government.”

SATTARA
PAPERS.Secret Letter from
Bombay,
28 Oct. 1839.

11. In conclusion, we beg to report that we have not received the reply of the Right Honourable the Governor-General of India to our report of the measures recently adopted at Sattara, and that the ex-Raja still continues at Neemb, the place to which he was removed on his dethronement.

We have, &c.

(Signed)

J. FARISH,

G. W. ANDERSON.

Bombay Castle,
28th October 1839.Secret Letter from
Bombay,
28 Nov. 1839.

SECRET LETTER FROM BOMBAY,

Dated 28th November, No. 128 of 1839.

1. We have the honour to transmit, for the information of your Honourable Committee, copy of a letter from the Secretary to the Government of India, in attendance on the Right Honourable the Governor General of India, dated the 24th ultimo, communicating his Lordship's sentiments and instructions on the proceedings recently adopted by our Resident at Sattara, and which have been fully reported to your Honourable Committee in our despatches dated as per margin.*

2. In reference to the disposal of the ex-Raja of Sattara it is observed, that after an attentive perusal of the papers transmitted to the Governor General, his Lordship feels fully convinced "that, after the obstinate refusal by the Raja, of the very lenient terms which were offered to him by the Governor, as the conditions on which an amnesty was to be granted for his past conduct, aggravated as that refusal was, by the clearest indications of the ungrateful and ambitious spirit by which he has been animated, there was no course left but to depose him from power."

3. His Lordship then notices the gross infractions of his engagements with the British Government established against the ex-Raja, and his objecting principally to give the assurance required from him, because it was to be viewed as a second ratification and confirmation of the most important stipulations of the treaty; and, in conclusion, gives his full sanction and support to the measure of deposition, to which our President was reluctantly compelled to resort.

4. With respect to the policy adopted, consequent to the deposal of the ex-Raja, his Lordship observes that, although there may be a difference of opinion on the subject, still "he attaches great weight to the arguments which are adduced, in favour of the measure which our President adopted, of raising the Raja's brother to the vacant throne, and that he had already afforded the sanction of his authority to that measure if our President should see fit to decide upon it; and the peaceful manner in which the change has been effected, the ready acquiescence of the people in that change, and the promise of improved government which has ensued, are circumstances strongly in favour of that course."

5. We have informed your Honourable Committee that we solicited the Governor General's instructions, 1st, in regard to the provision to be assigned to the ex-Raja and his family: 2d, in regard to his future place of residence. His Lordship has requested our President to fix the amount of stipend to be allowed from the Sattara revenues to the ex-Raja, and has resolved to select Benares as the place of his future residence.

6. We have the satisfaction of informing your Honourable Committee, that the treaty under which the ex-Raja's brother has been elevated to the throne has been returned to us, duly ratified by the Right Honourable the Governor General of India.

7. In

SATTARA
PAPERS.Secret Letter f
Bombay,
28 Nov. 1831

7. In conclusion, his Lordship states that he may take another opportunity of advertg to other topics introduced in our President's minute of his proceedings at Sattara, and that he only deems it necessary, on the present occasion, further to express his best thanks to our President for the anxious attention which he has bestowed upon this important subject, and to record his satisfaction that the change of Government at Sattara, under the judicious arrangements of Colonel Ovans, was happily effected without bloodshed or disturbance.

8. On the receipt of this despatch, our President has informed us, that it is his intention, without loss of time, again to proceed to Sattara, for the purpose of being present at the formal installation of the Raja, making arrangements for the removal of the ex-Raja to Benares, and meeting the Jagheerdars of the Sattara State, who are henceforward to be subjected to the general control of the British Government.

9. We now beg to request the attention of your Honourable Committee to two further despatches which we have received from the Resident at Sattara, dated the 30th ultimo and 11th instant, containing further proofs of the ex-Raja's hostile and treacherous proceedings against the British Government.

10. In reference to the first of these letters we may observe, that the information contained in the deposition of the Moonshee Wussee Oolla, who was engaged by the ex-Raja of Sattara to proceed on a mission to England *via* Egypt, is of importance, because it corroborates what has been from the first suspected, that the ex-Raja's intrigues were not confined to India, but extended beyond this country. The Moonshee deposes, that he was charged with a message to the Pacha of Egypt, to the effect "that the rule of the English extended to the whole of Hindoostan; that the whole of our country has been taken possession of by the English, and that therefore he should send here his army to co-operate with us and expel the English." This message is stated to have been personally communicated to the Moonshee, by the ex-Raja, in the presence of the Seenaputty.

11. We are strongly impressed with the conviction, that the full extent of the ex-Raja's intrigues has not yet been discovered. The discoveries recently made at Kurnool may very probably add to our knowledge of them; and we will only now further remark, that every accession of evidence obtained on this subject is of importance, because it tends to establish, that this infatuated prince had grounds for supposing, though unknown to us, that he was only one of a numerous and powerful confederacy, secretly formed against the British Government of India.

12. The evidence forwarded with the Resident's letter of the 11th instant is important, and corroborates the fact of the ex-Raja having, contrary to his treaty with the British Government, maintained an intercourse with foreign states. The mission of the cazee, Kuramut Oolla Khan, on his behalf, to the Nizam's Government, is proved. The cazee, on this occasion, was furnished by the ex-Rajah with an escort and funds, and the object of his mission appears from this evidence to have been to form a connection between the two states, inimical to the British Government.

13. The communication with the Nujoomce, or astrologer, and the questions put to him by the ex-Raja respecting the increase of his own dominions, and the downfall of the English rule, are also strongly illustrative of the ambitious and hostile spirit with which he has for several years past been animated against us. The same may be remarked in regard to his intercourse with the Shahzada from Delhi, whose visit to this Presidency in 1832, and subsequent visit to Hyderabad, are matters of public notoriety.

14. Our President has caused copy of this despatch to be sent to the Government of Madras, and to the Resident at Hyderabad, in the hope that inquiry by those authorities may further elicit the real nature and object of the cazee's mission to the capital of his Highness the Nizam.

15. We forward, as accompaniments to this despatch, copies of several memoranda received from the ex-Raja of Sattara, purporting to be an account

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Secret Letter from
Bombay,
28 Nov. 1839.

of what occurred at the interviews between himself and our President previous to his deposal. As a faithful account of what transpired at these interviews is contained in our President's minute, dated the 4th September last, we consider it unnecessary to comment on these communications.

16. In our letter dated the 7th October, No. 114 of 1839, we reported to your Honourable Committee, that almost one of the first acts of the present Raja of Sattara was, to promulgate a proclamation abolishing the inhuman rite of suttee within his dominions; and we now transmit copy of a letter which we have received from Mr. Secretary Maddock, communicating the satisfaction which the Right Honourable the Governor General of India has derived from the adoption of this measure.

17. With reference to the seventh to the ninth paragraphs of our despatch, dated the 7th ultimo, we further do ourselves the honour of transmitting to your Honourable Committee copy of a letter which we have received from the Secretary with the Right Honourable the Governor General of India, dated the 21st October, communicating the sentiments of his Lordship, as to the course best to be adopted on the subject of the libellous articles which have been recently published in the *Bombay Gazette* newspaper, against his Highness the present Raja of Sattara, and on the Sattara case generally.

18. In conclusion, we have the honour to forward copy of a letter just received from the Resident at Sattara, dated the 20th instant, transmitting translations of two original papers in the hand-writing of the ex-Raja of Sattara, discovered in a secret part of the Ranee's apartments in the palace.

19. As stated by the Resident, these papers are of importance, as affording additional evidence, of a most authentic description, of the ambitious designs formed by the ex-Raja, and of the belief which he cherished, that within a given time, or about the period that his attempt to tamper with our troops was detected, his *raj* (rule) would become as extensive as desired.

We have, &c.

(Signed)

J. FARISH,
G. W. ANDERSON.

Bombay Castle,
28th November 1839.

Secret Letter from
Bombay,
31 Dec. 1839.

SECRET LETTER FROM BOMBAY

Dated 31st December, No 134 of 1839.

1. With reference to the eighth paragraph of our despatch, dated the 28th ultimo, No. 128, we beg to report to your Honourable Committee, that our Honourable President arrived at Sattara, on his second visit to that place, on the 16th ultimo, for the purpose of being present at the formal installation of the Raja, making all requisite arrangements for the removal to Benares of the ex-Raja, and meeting the Jagheerdars of the Sattara state, who, by the terms of the new treaty, are henceforward placed under the general control of the British Government.

2. For the full particulars of the proceedings adopted by our Honourable President in carrying these objects into effect, we beg to refer your Honourable Committee to his minute recorded under date the 25th ultimo, and also to the two minutes recorded by the Honourable Mr. Farish and Mr. Anderson on the 3d and 4th instant, expressing their cordial concurrence in the whole of the measures adopted.

3. Your Honourable Committee, we are confident, will derive the highest gratification, from learning that everything connected with the Raja's installation was conducted in a most satisfactory manner, and that his Highness has given the most decisive proofs of his earnest desire for the improvement of his country, and for conducting its management in the most creditable manner.

4. We also beg to draw the particular attention of your Honourable Committee to the two letters addressed by our Political Secretary to Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans, the Resident at Sattara, and to Mr. Secretary Maddock, under
dates

dates the 21st and 25th ultimo, Nos. 197 and 205. Copy of Colonel Ovens's letter, dated the 28th September, No. 47, therein alluded to, also accompanies this despatch.

• Secret Letter fr
Bombay,
31 Dec. 1839

5. From the second and third paragraphs of the former communication your Honourable Committee will perceive that, subject to the confirmation of the Right Honourable the Governor General of India, an allowance of one lac and twenty thousand rupees per annum has been assigned by this Government for the support and dignity of the ex-Raja and his family, payable by the Sattara Government in monthly instalments of ten thousand rupees; and that, in order to obviate future misunderstanding and dispute, it has been further determined that this allowance shall be distributed in the following proportions, and shall terminate on the death of the respective parties :—

	RUPEES.		RUPEES.
To the ex-Raja.....	7,700 per mensem	92,400 per annum.	
To his first wife.....	1,000 do.	12,000 do.	
To his second wife	800 do.	9,600 do.	
To his daughter.....	500 do.	6,000 do.	
Total Rupees.....	10,000 do.	1,20,000 do.	

8. From Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens's letter, dated the 7th instant, No. 62, your Honourable Committee will perceive that the ex-Raja of Sattara, with an escort of two hundred men of the eighth regiment Bombay Native Infantry, and twenty-eight of the Poona Auxiliary Horse, under the command of Lieutenant F. Cristall, commenced his march for Benares on the 7th instant. For the particulars of the route by which it is arranged that this party shall proceed to Benares, we beg to refer to the Resident's letter dated the 29th November last, No. 60, from which it will be observed, that the ex-Raja will reach Benares about the 16th April next. We also beg to forward a copy of a letter from the Resident at Sattara, dated the 24th instant, No. 70, stating that the camp of the ex-Raja arrived at Ahmednuggur on the 20th instant, and that it was expected they would reach Malligaum about the 2nd or 3rd proximo.

9. Lieutenant Cristall has been directed to shew every attention to the ex-Raja on his journey to Benares, and to study his comfort in every possible way compatible with his safe custody, but to exercise great vigilance to prevent any communications between the ex-Raja and the Native Chiefs on the line of route, and on his arrival at Benares to deliver him over to the chief civil authority at that station.

10. We have much pleasure in drawing the attention of your Honourable Committee to Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens's letter, dated the 28th ultimo, No. 277, forwarding translation of a *yad* from the Raja of Sattara, regarding an hospital which his Highness has resolved to establish at that place for the benefit of his subjects.

11. The laudable objects contemplated by the Raja in forming this establishment, as stated by his Highness, are the affording medical aid to all the poorer classes of his subjects, the supplying them with medicine gratis, the instruction of his subjects in medical science, and the extension of the blessings of vaccination throughout the Sattara territory.

12. From the reply which we have returned to the Resident's communication, your Honourable Committee will perceive the extent of aid which we have considered it advisable to afford to the Raja for the attainment of his highly desirable object, and that we have requested Colonel Ovens to communicate to his Highness the high satisfaction experienced by the British Government at his resolution to establish an institution which is calculated to be of so much benefit to his subjects.

13. With a subsequent letter of the same date (28th November) Colonel Ovens forwarded to us translation of a further *yad* from the Raja of Sattara,

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Secret Letter from
Bombay,
31 Dec. 1899.

on the subject of certain public works which his Highness therein states himself to be desirous of constructing.

* 14. The principal works proposed by the Raja to be immediately carried into effect are :

1st. Two bridges on the Poona road, one over the Yeuna, and the other over the Kistna rivers :

2d. The completion of the road to Poona, about seven or eight miles of which is now unmade :

3d. The formation of a reservoir at Mahableshwur :

4th. Bungalows and Dhurmsallas for European and Native travellers.

15. The first and second of these undertakings (namely, the bridges and road) will complete the communications with Poona through the Sattara territory, which during the monsoon are sometimes completely cut off. The third, (namely, the reservoir) will form a tank near the residence of his Highness at Mahableshwur, and will be the means of yielding at all times an abundant supply of water to the residents at Malcolm Peyt and the adjacent country ; and the fourth (namely, the erection of Bungalows and Dhurmsallas) will be of great utility.

16. Dr. Murray, the Superintendent of the convalescent station at Mahableshwur, having, in reply to a reference made by us to him on the subject, stated it to be his opinion, that the construction of the proposed reservoir at Mahableshwur will, when completed, be extremely beneficial to that station, both by improving the qualities of the climate, and by affording an increased supply of water for the purposes of cultivation and of domestic use, we have requested Colonel Ovans to intimate to the Raja the high gratification experienced by this Government, at learning the laudable intentions of his Highness to appropriate a portion of his revenues to works of general improvement and utility, which, when carried into effect, will not only prove beneficial to his country, but afford an ample return for the expenses they may occasion.

17. In a further letter, dated the 28th November last, No. 278, Colonel Ovans forwarded translation of a *yad* from the Raja of Sattara, on the subject of his Highness's wish to reform the corps now in his service, amounting to eleven hundred sebundies, by selecting from them five or six hundred men, to be armed, dressed, and trained under the superintendence of a European officer, so as to render it an efficient local corps.

18. We consider the proposed reform in this corps to be highly desirable, since it will combine both efficiency and economy ; and we beg to refer to our Political Secretary's letter to the Resident at Sattara, dated the 14th instant, from which your Honourable Committee will perceive the extent of aid which we have deemed it advisable to afford the Raja for the attainment of this desirable object.

19. The Resident at Sattara having brought to our notice the great difficulty that exists in carrying on the ordinary duties of the Residency, from the limited scale of his native establishment of writers and peons, we have authorized an increase thereto, to the extent of 240 rupees per mensem, half the expense being defrayed by the Sattara Government, and the remaining half by the Jagheerdars noted in the margin.*

20. In consideration of the onerous duties which will, for some time to come, devolve on the Resident at Sattara, we have recommended to the Right Honourable the Governor General of India, that an additional personal allowance of 500 rupees per mensem should be granted to Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans, and that, with reference to the extent of duties, and the eminent ability

with

* The Raja of Akulcote, 40 rupees per month.

The Punt Sucheo..... 40 do.

The Duffley 20 do.

The Nimbalkur 20 do.

with which he has performed them, this increase be made retrospective to the date of the treaty with the present Raja, namely, the 4th of September last.

**SATTARA
PAPERS.**

21. With reference to the twelfth to the fourteenth paragraphs of our despatch dated the 28th ultimo, No. 128, we do ourselves the honour of herewith transmitting copy of a communication which we have received from the Resident at Hyderabad, in reply to the reference made to that officer on the subject of Colonel Ovans's letter, dated the 11th ultimo, relative to a clandestine correspondence alleged to have been carried on between the Government of Hyderabad and the ex-Raja of Sattara, through the intervention of a cazee named Kuramut Oolla.

**Secret Letter fr
Bombay,
31 Dec. 1839**

We have, &c.

(Signed)

Bombay Castle,
31st December 1838.

**J. R. CARNAC,
J. FARISH,
G. W. ANDERSON.**

EXTRACT SECRET LETTER FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

EXTRACT SECRET LETTER FROM MADRAS,

Dated 7th December, No. 21 of 1839.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Extract Secret
Letter from
Madras,

10. In consequence of a communication from the Bombay Government,* we requested to be informed by the Commissioners, whether the report of a confederacy against the British Government, of which the ex-Raja of Sattara was a member, had been confirmed by their inquiries at Kurnool. The Commissioners, in reply, stated that they had not discovered any paper in which the ex-Raja of Sattara was in any way mentioned; nor had any thing transpired in the course of their inquiries, which indicated that there had been any communication between the ex-Raja and Goolam Russool Khan, as parties to a confederacy against the British Government.

* In Consultations, 26th Nov. 1839, Nos. 2 to 4; Collection No. 5 in the packet.

LETTERS AND EXTRACTS OF LETTERS FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

SECRET LETTER FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA,

Dated 3d July 1837.

**SATTARA
PAPERS.**

**Secret Letter from
the Government
of India,
3 July 1837.**

1. We have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Honourable Committee's letter, under date the 8th February last, regarding the conspiracy supposed to have been formed at Sattara.

2. Your Honourable Committee will have received from the Government of Bombay a copy of the report alluded to in their letter to your address of the 17th January last, as having been drawn up by the Commission appointed to investigate the circumstances connected with the accusation preferred against the Raja of Sattara, of an attempt to corrupt the fidelity of our troops, as well as a record of the opinions of that Government, in regard to the degree and mode of punishment to be inflicted on the delinquent chief.

3. We are not yet in possession of sufficient data to enable us to form a decisive opinion as to the course to be pursued in this matter; but we have, nevertheless, communicated to the Government of Bombay our present views on this important question, an exposition of which is contained in the annexed document.*

4. It will be seen that we have dissented from the opinion of the Governor in Council of that Presidency, as to the expediency of adopting a middle course in this case. We have argued that, if the Raja is guilty of the delinquency laid to his charge, and of which he has been convicted by the Commission of Inquiry, there should be no compromise with such an offence; and we have refused to recognize the principle, that in a case like the present, the British Government should, from fear of imputations on the purity of its motives, refrain from the plain course of resuming territory and power, when those to whom they have been entrusted are using them for our destruction.

5. We are of opinion that, should the additional information which has been called for establish beyond all doubt the criminality of the Raja, and afford, moreover, evidence of the participation of all the members of his family in his guilt, he should be deposed; that none of his relatives should be elected to reign in his stead; and that the Sattara dominions should, at once, be annexed to the British territories.

6. We have no small gratification in being able to assure your Honourable Committee that, although some communication would appear to have taken place between the Sattara Chief and the ex-Raja of Nagpore, the nature of which is as yet unknown, no grounds exist for suspecting any of the Native Powers to have been implicated in the plot, which was confined to the scene where it originated, and totally failed of success; nor has there been any manifestation, by other Native States, of disaffection to our Government.

7. We are equally happy in assuring your Honourable Committee, that we have no reason to suspect any of the European Powers, now in amity with his Majesty, of having been concerned in the intrigues in question.

8. Copies of the documents illustrative of the matter forming the subject of
this

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Secret Letter from
the Government
of India,
3 July 1837.

this letter* are herewith forwarded; among which will be found a minute recorded by Mr. Shakespear, containing an exposition of his view of the case (more favourable to the Raja and his Dewan than that which is entertained by the other Members of Council), and of the evidence on which the guilt of the Raja is at present considered to rest.

We have, &c.

(Signed)

AUCKLAND,
A. ROSS.
W. MORISON,
H. SHAKESPEAR.

Fort William,
3d July 1837.

Extract
Political Letter
from the
Government of
India,
20 Oct. 1837.

EXTRACT POLITICAL LETTER FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF
INDIA,

Dated 20th October 1837.

Par. 48. This correspondence† relates to the subject of the presents alleged to have been sent by the Raja of Sattara to Appa Sahib at Joudpore, and stands in connexion with paragraph 6 of a letter addressed by us to the Honourable the Secret Committee, dated the 3d July, No. 7 of 1837.

Extract
Public Letter
from the
Governor General,
6 Jan. 1838.

EXTRACT PUBLIC LETTER FROM THE GOVERNOR GENERAL,

Dated 6th January, No. 1 of 1838.

Par. 32. I have witnessed with considerable pain the protracted and extended investigations in which the Government of Bombay has thought it necessary to enter, in connection with the original charges against the Raja of Sattara, and I have required that the proceedings be terminated, and brought under the review of the Supreme Government at the earliest possible period.

Political Letter
from the
Governor General,
1 Oct. 1838.

POLITICAL LETTER FROM THE GOVERNOR GENERAL,

Dated 1st October 1838.

1. I have the honour to forward herewith copy of minute recorded by me on the 23d ultimo, respecting the course which it will be expedient to pursue with regard to the Raja of Sattara, whom I fully believe to have been implicated in treasonable practices against this Government.

2. The whole of the proceedings upon which this opinion is based have been already reported to your Honourable Court by the Honourable the Governor in Council of Bombay.

I have, &c.

(Signed) AUCKLAND.

Simla,
1st October 1838.

* Secret Consultations, 29 May 1837, Nos. 11 to 19, Abstracts Nos. 3 to 9.

† Consultations, 10 April 1837, No. 61; 19th June, Nos. 8 and 9.

POLITICAL LETTER FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL,

Dated 29th December, No. 24 of 1838.

I have the honour, in continuation of my despatch, dated 1st October (No. 21) 1838, to forward to your Honourable Court a further minute recorded by me on the affairs of Sattara, as connected with the recent intrigues of the Raja.

SATTAR
PAPERPolitical Let
from the
Governor Gen
29 Dec. 1838

Camp at Lahore,
29th December 1838.

I have, &c.

(Signed) AUCKLAND.

SECRET LETTER FROM THE GOVERNOR GENERAL.

*Dated 7th November, No. 42 of 1839.*Secret Lett
from the
Governor Gen
7 Nov. 1839

1. I have the honour to submit, for the information of your Honourable Committee, the papers noted on the margin,* relative to the deposal of the Raja of Sattara, and the proclaiming his brother as successor.

2. The enclosures to the Bombay despatch of the 18th September last, being voluminous, are not sent herewith, particularly as your Honourable Committee will have been furnished with the entire despatch from Bombay.

I have, &c.

Camp at Kote Kutchwa,
7th November 1839.

(Signed) AUCKLAND.

* Abstract of Contents, Nos. 3 and 4.

DESPATCHES FROM THE COURT OF DIRECTORS AND SECRET COMMITTEE TO THE GOVERNMENTS OF INDIA AND BOMBAY.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

POLITICAL DESPATCH TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA,

Dated 13th June, No. 39 of 1838.

Political Despatch
to the
Government of
India,
13 June 1838.

1. In a letter dated 6th January (No. 1) 1838, the Governor General informs us, that he has "witnessed with considerable pain the protracted and extended investigations into which the Government of Bombay has thought it necessary to enter, in connexion with the original charges against the Raja of Sattara, and that he has required that the proceedings be terminated, and brought under the review of the Supreme Government at the earliest possible period."

2. It is our particular desire to receive, as soon as possible, your review of these proceedings; and, in the confidence that it will be transmitted without any avoidable delay, we shall suspend our own review of the case till we are in possession of yours. At the same time, we have no hesitation in giving it as our decided opinion, that it would be not only a waste of time, but seriously detrimental to the character of our Government, to carry on any further inquiry in the matter.

We are, &c.

(Signed)

J. L. LUSHINGTON,
R. JENKINS,
W. ASTELL,
W. S. CLARKE,
J. LOCH,
W. B. BAYLEY,
J. R. CARNAC,
P. VANS AGNEW,
F. WARDEN,
J. P. MUSPRATT,
H. SHANK,
J. THORNHILL,
H. ALEXANDER,
J. MASTERMAN.

London,
13th June 1838.

POLITICAL DESPATCH TO THE GOVERNMENT OF BOMBAY,

Dated 13th June, No. 12 of 1838.

Political Despatch
to the
Government of
Bombay,
13 June 1838.

We have perused with great attention the letters noticed in the margin,* which relate to certain charges against the Raja of Sattara. The Governor General has informed us, that he has required your proceedings on this subject to be transmitted and brought under the review of the Supreme Government at the earliest possible period. We hope and trust that these orders of the Governor General have been long before this fully complied with by you. In this belief, we shall suspend our judgment on these proceedings till we are in possession of that of the Supreme Government. At the same time we have no

* Bombay Secret Letters dated the 15th Sept. and 30th Nov. 1836; 17th Jan.; 1st and 28th April; and 24th June 1837. India Political, 3d July (No. 7). 1837. Bombay Secret, 19th July; 16th and 19th Aug.; and 25th Sept. 1837. Bombay Political (No. 56), 1837. Bombay Secret, 21st and 23d Oct.; and 27th and 30th Nov. 1837. India Political 6th Jan. (No. 11) 1838.

no hesitation in giving it as our decided opinion, that it would be not only a waste of time, but seriously detrimental to the character of our Government, to carry on any further inquiry in the matter.

We are, &c.

(Signed)

J. L. LUSHINGTON,
R. JENKINS,
W. ATELL,
W. S. CLARKE,
J. LOCH,
J. R. CARNAC,
P. VANS AGNEW,
F. WARDEN,
J. FORBES,
H. SHANK,
J. THORNHILL,
W. B. BAYLEY,
J. MASTERMAN,
G. LYALL,
J. P. MUSPRATT.

SATTARA
PAPERS

Political Despatch
to the
Government
Bombay,
13 June 1838

London,
13th June 1838.

SECRET DESPATCH TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA,

Dated 22d January 1839.

As Sir James Carnac, the Governor of Bombay, has been in communication with us on the subject of your proceedings regarding the Raja of Sattara, we are particularly desirous that you should suspend any final decision on the case until you have had an opportunity of taking into your consideration such observations and suggestions as may be made to you by Sir James Carnac on a review of those proceedings.

In the mean time, it may be as well for us to state to you, that we see no reason to dissent from the opinion expressed by the Court of Directors in their letter of the 13th June (No. 39) 1838.

A copy of this letter will be communicated to the Governor in Council at Bombay, with a request that he will suspend the transmission of any decision to the Raja of Sattara until you shall have had an opportunity of issuing such further direction as you may think proper, in reference to this despatch.

We are, &c.

(Signed)

J. L. LUSHINGTON,
R. JENKINS,
W. ATELL.

East-India House,
22d January 1839.

Secret Despatch
to the
Government
India,
22 Jan. 1839

SECRET DESPATCH TO THE GOVERNMENT OF BOMBAY,

Dated 22d January 1839.

We transmit to you, for your information and guidance, copy of an instruction which we have this day addressed to the Governor General of India in Council relating to the Raja of Sattara, and we request your particular attention to the concluding paragraph, in which you are desired to suspend the transmission of any decision to the Raja on his case, until the receipt of an instruction from his Lordship in Council in reference to this despatch.

We are, &c.

(Signed)

J. L. LUSHINGTON,
R. JENKINS,
W. ATELL.

East-India House,
22d January 1839.

Secret Despatch
to the
Government of
Bombay,
22 Jan. 1839.

MINUTES OF THE GOVERNMENT OF BOMBAY.*

SATTARA
PAPERS.

MINUTES BY THE GOVERNOR,

Dated 12th and 13th September 1836.

Minute by
the Governor,
12 & 13 Sept. 1836.

I beg to lay before the Board a private communication which I have received from the Resident at Sattara. To prevent suspicion, Colonel Lodwick has forwarded the official report through the regular channel; but, as this letter contains the substance of that report, I have, in concert with the Commander-in-Chief, authorized the measures that the Resident deems advisable.

The regiment at Sholapore will not, as was originally intended, move from that station until relieved by another corps. The 8th Regiment will march to Sattara with the apparent object of relieving the 23d Regiment, whenever the Resident shall consider further delay dangerous; but I agree with him in thinking that information of very great importance may be obtained through the agency of the Native officers, relative to the powers combined with the Raja of Sattara, provided secrecy can be maintained; and of that Colonel Lodwick can best judge.

The reinforcement of Artillery and the ammunition will also be prepared.

Since the Engineers were brought to Poona, Captain Peat, the officer in command, has been indefatigable in his exertions. The old pontoons are repaired, and the men have now a very sufficient acquaintance with their pontooning duties; but, as the train is still very incomplete, I have directed Captain Peat to prepare the superstructure for two additional rafts at Poona, which on an emergency may be used with casks. The canoes must, I find, be constructed in the dock-yard, and would not be ready for some time.

I fear there can be little doubt that the Raja of Sattara has, as the Resident affirms, proved faithless to his engagements with the British Government. How to deal with him will be a subject of the greatest consideration; but copies of Colonel Lodwick's despatches should be immediately forwarded to the Government of India, and sent by the Shannon to the Honourable the Court of Directors.

12th September 1836.

(Signed) R. GRANT.

Since writing the foregoing minute, I have received Colonel Lodwick's official report, with the depositions of the two Native officers.

These depositions are not so full as I expected; but Colonel Lodwick, from his knowledge of the parties, must be able to form the best judgment of the degree of reliance we ought to place on their testimony.

I do not think it necessary to discuss the question at this moment, nor indeed am I prepared to do so. I have, however, thought the papers of sufficient importance to require that copies of them should be sent direct to the Supreme Government and to the Governor of Agra; and, I trust, my Colleagues will approve of my having done so without the loss of a day.

Colonel Lodwick should be instructed not to allow any change to be apparent in his political intercourse with the Raja of Sattara.

13th September 1836.

(Signed) R. GRANT.

* Some minutes and passages in this division are omitted, for the reasons assigned in the note in page 1.

MINUTE BY MR. EDWARD IRONSIDE,

Dated 14th September 1836.

I concur in all that has been done. In venturing an opinion, I beg to observe, that I do so with great deference; and I trust, therefore, that my motives may not be misconstrued. I am of opinion, considering the great importance of the state of affairs, that it would be highly expedient, were the Governor and his excellency the Commander-in-chief to return as early as possible to the Presidency, in order that there may be a full and united Council, and no delays in making such arrangements as may be deemed expedient.

14th September.

(Signed) E. IRONSIDE.

SATTAR.
PAPERS

Minute
by Mr. Irons.
14 Sept. 1836

MINUTE BY MR. JAMES FARISH,

Dated 14th September 1836.

I concur in the measures that have been adopted. The Madras Government is not mentioned; but as Hyderabad is one of the points mentioned by the Raja, that Government should, I think, be apprized. I agree with Mr. Ironside in the importance of the course which he has suggested for the consideration of the Right Honourable the Governor.

14th September.

(Signed) J. FARISH.

Minute
by Mr. Farish
14 Sept. 1836

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Dated 2d October 1836.

Minute
by the Govern
2 Oct. 1836.

1. I submit to the Board Colonel Lodwick's reply to the letter addressed to him on the 22d instant, which, by an unimportant mistake, was not signed by the Government Secretary in attendance; and also a despatch which was received yesterday by express. The latter only requires notice.

2. Feeling that, when once suspicion was excited in the mind of the Raja, no circumstances could long remain concealed, I instantly sent to Colonel Lodwick the instructions of which the accompanying paper is a transcript; and, I trust, my colleagues will approve of the course I have adopted.

3. I have more than once said, that I do not entertain the slightest doubt of the Native officers having told us the truth; and, after our official report to the Secret Committee, we are bound to proceed with the examination. We must not, however, lose sight of the fact, that we have at present no *positive proof* of the Raja's guilt; and if we cannot make it, to a degree, apparent to the country, our measures will be strictly scrutinized.

4. We must, therefore, so proceed, as not to have the semblance of undue or unnecessary harshness; and I have not thought it right to require the surrender of the Fort of Sattara, nor to make any attempt to seize it. Indeed, the possession of this fort would be of little advantage to us, while, to the Raja, the seizure of it would be an open insult.

5. For the same reason, I have determined not to move any troops on Sattara, until the Raja has been offered the opportunity of complying with the demands of the Resident. Troops could not have left Poona without spreading instant alarm through the country. The conspirators, as Colonel Lodwick observes, would have more time for escape or for collusion; and as the Raja would, of course, say that we need not have doubted his readiness to meet our wishes, we should neither have so good a case, nor such just grounds for charging him

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Governor,
2 Oct. 1836.

with the expense of the movement. The baggage cattle have been called in to Poona to the usual muster on the 1st of the month; and, as all will be ready, a force could reach Sattara in four days.

6. I have allowed Colonel Lodwick to use his discretion in seizing the person called Scindia's Vakeel, because he has, I understand, a safe conduct or letter of introduction from the Resident at Gwalior to Colonel Lodwick.

7. For instituting a full inquiry into the case, I propose to appoint a Secret Commission, composed of Colonel Lodwick, Colonel Ovans, and Mr. Willoughby, if the latter gentleman can possibly be spared from his duties at the Presidency at this moment. Of this, however, my colleagues will be the best judges, and to them I leave the determination.

8. Should Mr. Willoughby be unable to quit the Presidency, it strikes me that Mr. John Warden would be the best substitute, and I wish either one or the other to join me at Dapooree with the least possible delay.

(Signed) R. GRANT.

MINUTE BY MR. EDWARD IRONSIDE,

Minute
by Mr. Ironside,
(no date.)

Without Date.

For the reasons stated in the above minute, I readily concur in the course which has been adopted. Although Mr. Willoughby can ill be spared from his duties at the Presidency, I nevertheless at once assent to his undertaking the office of Commissioner; I also approve of Major Ovans being the other Commissioner.

(Signed) E. IRONSIDE.

MINUTE BY MR. JAMES FARISH,

Minute
by Mr. Farish,
(no date.)

Without Date.

The instructions of the 1st October to the Resident appear to me to be in every point of view most judicious, and have my entire concurrence.

(Signed) J. FARISH.

MINUTE BY MR. JAMES FARISH,

Minute
by Mr. Farish
4 Oct. 1836.

Dated 4th October 1836.

An express should, I think, go to Sattara, to acquaint the Resident with the ill-advised notice of Sattara affairs in to-day's *Courier*, that he may judge of the expediency of acting before its intelligence reaches Sattara in ordinary course.

It should be kept secret in the Post Office in what direction the express is going, until it starts, lest any emissaries of the Raja take advantage of it, if known.

(Signed) J. FARISH.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Dated 5th October 1836.

(Concurred in by the Civil Members of the Board.)

Having yesterday received from the Resident at Sattara the letter dated the 3d instant, which I now send to the Presidency, I have this morning caused to be despatched to him, by express, a letter, of which a transcript is also now transmitted.

The last-mentioned document explains itself, and I shall, therefore, only add now, that I have been a good deal embarrassed by the variation of tone manifested in the Resident's recent letters. I do not say this in the way of blame, knowing the anxious situation in which Colonel Lodwick is placed, but in order that my Civil Colleagues may be fully apprised of my sentiments.

I learn by a private letter from the Political Secretary, that an express has been despatched from the Presidency to apprise Colonel Lodwick, by anticipation, of an ill-advised notice which has appeared in the *Courier* newspaper of the Sattara affairs, and beg to express my full approbation of the proceeding.

I believe, however, that hardly any thing can have appeared in the Bombay newspapers, which is not already matter of conversation at Sattara; and my present impression is, that when the immediate crisis shall have passed, it will be our duty severely to animadvert on the indiscretion to which the premature publicity of the whole matter is to be ascribed.

(Signed) R. GRANT.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

*Dated the 10th October 1836.*Minute
by the Governor
10 Oct. 1836.

(Concurred in by the Members of the Board.)

1. The readiness with which the Raja of Sattara has complied with our demand to surrender the parties accused of tampering with our troops is remarkable, and involves the case in greater uncertainty; we must, however, await the report of the Commission.

2. Mr. Willoughby and Colonel Ovens set off for Sattara last night. Conceiving it of the utmost importance that they should proceed on the examination immediately, I have taken it on myself to give them instructions in the name of the Board. It would have been far more satisfactory to me to submit these, in the first instance, to my Civil Colleagues, but the reference must have caused a delay of three days, at the very least; and it seemed to me that the instructions had better, at any rate, be framed in general terms, and that the nature of them so much resulted from those previous transactions in which the Board acted unanimously, that my Colleagues would approve of my issuing them at once. The draft of them accompanies the present minute.

3. In one only point these instructions have somewhat deviated from the view we have hitherto taken. By private letters from Colonel Stewart at Hyderabad, and from Sir Charles Metcalfe, I find that those authorities totally disbelieve the concurrence of the Nizam, on the one hand, and of Holkar and Scindia, on the other, in any plot against our Government. Subject, therefore, to what may yet appear, it would seem that the Raja of Sattara is the only person of any consequence to whom suspicion attaches; and, if so, no reason of policy appears why we should hold out to his Highness any hopes of clemency, in the event of his making a candid disclosure of his transgressions.

Minute
by the Governor,
10 Oct. 1836.

gressions. For this reason, the instructions contain a direction to the Commission, to use no language to his Highness which can fetter the Government in its future proceedings.

4. I also submit to the Board the draft of a letter to the Resident at Sattara, in reply to his despatch of the 7th instant, and hope my Colleagues will approve of it.

5. Copies of the Resident's letter, and of the instructions to the Commission, should be immediately forwarded to the Government of India, and a report of our proceedings, up to this date, be transmitted to the Secret Committee, in continuation of our despatch of the 15th September last.

(Signed) R. GRANT.

Minute
by the Governor,
12 Oct. 1836.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Dated 13th October 1836.

(Concurred in by the Civil Members of the Board.)

It is certainly highly expedient to avoid any act which would hurt the feelings, or lower the credit of the Raja; but it is infinitely more necessary, to take care that no collision shall occur between our troops and the Raja's followers or people.

If, therefore, there be any room to fear such collision, the Resident should be directed to prevent any occasion for it, explaining the matter to the Raja as civilly as possible. Any displeasure that might be caused to his Highness is to be risked, rather than the danger to be apprehended on the other side.

My inclination is to say that the usual observances had better be avoided; but an eye-witness, and especially one accustomed to such occasions and to the people, can far better judge than those at a distance.

With these observations, the matter must be left to Colonel Lodwick. If he feels satisfied that the hazard of collision is next to nothing, and that provision can be made to put down at once any incipient disturbance, it is the wish of Government that the customary marks of respect to his Highness should not be omitted.

If necessary, he should communicate on this subject with the Raja, who, if well disposed, or even rationally disposed, would of course exert himself to obviate all possibility of contention, rather than suffer the indignity of not being attended by the troops, as usual.

(Signed) R. GRANT.

Minute
by the Governor,
5 Oct. 1836.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Dated 25th October 1836.

1. The proposition of Colonel Lodwick turns on views which I consider as totally inapplicable to the case.

2. In ordinary trials for crimes, the question being whether a positive law has been violated, the decision may turn on nice points of legal construction, or on an accurate examination of precedents. If the case on either side is, either by accident or design, imperfectly represented, the Judge, knowing nothing of it but what appears at the trial, has very limited means of supplying the defect. Professional aid is, therefore, necessary on both sides; and, indeed, it must be evident that, if allowed to the accuser, it cannot be denied to the accused.

3. The

SATTARA
PAPERS.Minute
by the Governor
25 Oct. 1836.

3. The present case is wholly different. The question is not one of law, nor admits of any legal refinements. It is an inquiry, not set on foot by a prosecutor, but conducted by the Government itself, which has no bias against the Raja, but, on the contrary, the sincerest wish to see his innocence established. The honour, indeed, of the British Government, and also its credit for consistency, are deeply concerned in not admitting, except on the most irresistible evidence, the guilt of a prince whom the Government raised from a prison to a throne, whom it has ever since fostered with friendly care, and from whom it has uniformly received all the observances of attachment and confidence.

4. The investigation is immediately conducted by three British officers of high character, who know that the sole object of Government is the discovery of truth, who cannot possibly have any feeling of interest adverse to the Raja, and who, being unembarrassed by legal forms and technicalities, have the fullest means and facilities of seeking out all the information attainable.

5. Were the Raja to be attended by his counsel, it ought, on similar principles, to be held that Government must appear on the occasion by the Advocate-General. But I see not the slightest reason for adopting, in the present case, a course utterly unknown, and, indeed, so palpably inapplicable to proceedings of this nature. The Raja may be attended by one of his own ministers or confidential friends. No intention exists of warping doubtful circumstances to his disadvantage; and, if he be innocent, my conviction is, that his cause will find a surer support in the intelligence and consciences of the Commissioners, than it could derive from the dexterous tactics and ingenious pleading of the ablest advocate whom he could hire for his defence.

6. With regard to the manner of communicating with the Raja, I have thought it right, as the most effectual as well as the most conciliatory proceeding, to address a letter from myself to his Highness, in which I stated, That circumstances having rendered it necessary for Government to appoint a Secret Commission at Sattara, for the purpose of inquiring into certain circumstances of great importance to the country, this Commission, as representing the Government, would be entitled to every consideration from his Highness: that, during the inquiry, some questions had arisen which involved the interests of his Highness; and that, as the Commission could not meet in his palace without occasioning a display of publicity, which it was desirable to avoid, I write with my own hand, to invite him to visit the Commissioners at the Residency, when all should be made plain.

7. In the concluding instructions to the Commission, I desired that this letter should be delivered to the Raja by the Political Secretary, as the immediate organ of Government, who would, of course, be introduced by the Resident: that if the Raja declined to attend at the Residency, he should be requested to point out any other mode, by which a meeting between his Highness and the Commissioners could be effected, without compromising the dignity of one party, or the duty of the other. Should the Raja refuse to do so, or should his proposal be deemed inadmissible, I instructed Mr. Willoughby to inform his Highness of the charges against him, and of the evidence on which they rested, and to point out, clearly and forcibly, the bad impression the Government must entertain by his declining to meet these accusations.

8. Even should this appeal be unavailing, I represented to the Commissioners that I did not think they should close their proceedings, without giving the Raja the option of either delivering a written statement of his conduct, or of answering, in writing, whatever interrogatories the Commission might consider it advisable to propose.

9. It is of so great importance that the Commission should close their proceedings, to allow Mr. Willoughby and Colonel Ovens to return to their duties, that I trust the Board will approve of my having answered the reference without previously submitting it to Bombay. We shall now shortly be called upon to deliberate on the mode of treating this delicate case, should the Raja of Sattara have really proved faithless to his engagements with the British Government;

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Governor,
25 Oct. 1836.

vernment ; and I request that my Colleagues will give the subject their most serious attention, as it will probably be the first on which we shall have to consult when we meet at the Presidency.

25th October 1836.

(Signed) R. GRANT.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Dated 25th November 1836.

(Subscribed by the Board.)

1. I think the present state of circumstances warrants, and even requires, that we should suspend for a few days our acceptance of the present as well as the letter.

2. This may be signified verbally to the bearer.

3. It may also be stated to our Resident at Sattara, not with the view of his volunteering any communication on the subject to the Raja, but that he may be prepared to reply to inquiries if made.

(Signed) R. GRANT,

25th November 1836.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Without Date.

(Subscribed by the Board.)

I do not think this dress can, under existing circumstances, be received.

(Signed) R. GRANT,

Minute
by the Governor,
(no date.)

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Dated 3d December 1836.

(Subscribed by the Board.)

1. I shall hereafter submit to the Board my remarks on the report of the Sattara Commission. There are, however, one or two points which should be immediately disposed of.

2. First: Concurring, as I do, with the Commissioners in their suggestions regarding the disposal of the prisoners (vide paragraph 11 of their report), I think Govind Row Dewan, and the Bramin Untajec, should be removed without delay to Poona, and be there confined as State prisoners, under the usual warrants, pending the receipt of the instructions of the Government of India. The prisoner, Pureshram, may be pardoned and set at liberty, and the Dewan's servant, Coosia, provided for in the manner proposed by the Commissioners.

3. Secondly: I think the Government of Agra should be immediately advised of the communications alleged to have taken place between his Highness the ex-Raja of Nagpore, the proper extracts from the Commissioners' report and proceedings being forwarded.

4. Thirdly: I wish the Chief Secretary to be directed to make inquiries regarding the Agents employed by the Raja to conduct the mission to England.

5. Fourthly: Colonel Lodwick having stated, on the 3d of October, that circumstances had come to his knowledge as to the general increase of the troops in the service of the Raja, and having subsequently stated, on the 24th October, when under examination before the Commission, that he did not think

Minute
by the Governor,
3 Dec. 1836.

think the Raja had augmented his military force to an extent which could be called a breach of the treaty, he should be called upon to reconcile this apparent contradiction, and to state distinctly to what extent the force of his Highness has actually been increased.

(Signed)

R. GRANT,
J. KEANE,
E. IRONSIDE,
J. FARISH.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Govern
3 Dec. 1837

3d December 1836.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Dated 30th January 1837.

Minute
by the Govern
30 Jan. 1837

1. I have now again to call the attention of the Board to the recent inquiries connected with the Sattara State, and more immediately to the most important, and what I find to be the most difficult question relating to the subject: I mean, the disposal of his Highness the Raja.

2. This point was expressly reserved in the concluding paragraph of the resolutions recorded by the Board on the 12th of last December; and, in treating of it, I shall assume, what the Board then unanimously found, that the Raja is guilty to the extent stated by the Commission, while, at the same time, it cannot be considered as clear, that the whole of his misconduct has been brought to light.

3. In delivering, therefore, my sentiments on the present subject, I must beg that they may be considered dependent on the result of our recent reference to the Government of Agra; for if it shall be hereafter established, that the Raja has held with the ex-Raja of Nagpore communications of a hostile and treacherous nature against the British Government, a case for exemplary punishment will have arisen, and one in which our motives for inflicting it cannot reasonably be misconstrued.

4. In the present situation of matters, however, which indeed was their situation when the Board met on the 12th December, three modes of dealing with the Raja, as I then orally submitted to the Board, suggested themselves for consideration.

1st. To declare that the Raja, by his ingratitude, and by having broken the ties of amity existing between the two Governments, has altogether forfeited his principality:

2d. To pardon his offence altogether, and to content ourselves with reproof and admonition:

3d. To adopt a middle course, by inflicting on him some punishment short of total forfeiture.

5. To the first and second of these modes of procedure I am decidedly adverse, and disposed to recommend to the Government of India the adoption of the third.

6. With respect to the first, I will not pretend to affirm that this Prince has not, by his gross violation of the spirit, if not the letter, of existing treaties, placed himself entirely at our mercy. On the principles of rigid justice, therefore, he could not rightfully complain, even were he punished by the extinction of the powers and privileges which he has abused.

7. Nor do I doubt that, in the view of many, if not of most, politicians, reasons of policy will appear to justify a resort to that extreme measure. An opinion is now very commonly entertained, that the erection of Sattara into a separate principality was a mistaken proceeding. It is at least clear, that this principality includes the finest part of the Deccan, and, by its position, most awkwardly breaks the continuity of the British territory. There are those, therefore, who will hail the present crisis, as affording an excellent opportunity of repairing the error alluded to, by pulling down the inconvenient pageant which we have erected.

8. I cannot assent to those views. A regard to character, if not our own feeling, prescribes that legal rights should be enforced with moderation, and that

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Governor,
30 Jan. 1837.

that mercy should temper justice. So far as appears, the crime of the Raja, though amounting to treason, was in a practical sense only inchoate; justice, therefore, liberally considered, does not require his destruction. On the other hand, it cannot be pretended that our own safety requires it; and on no other ground can mere policy be allowed to dictate so severe a sentence.

9. The consideration, that his Highness owes his elevation to British favour, should, in some views at least, prevent us from proceeding against him too vigorously. However we may have erred in setting up this dependent power, it is not desirable, without absolute necessity, to expose that error to others. Consistency requires that we should adhere, if possible, to an arrangement adopted on much consideration; and if we court the praise of generosity, the very fact that his Highness is the creature of our breath and the spoiled child of our patronage, should plead to some extent in his favour.

10. Farther, it is an argument on the same side of the question, that the Raja has governed the dominions which he received from us tolerably well. The history of the British connexion with India records the names of many chiefs and princes whom we began with advancing to honour, or at least supporting with our protection, and ended with deposing, destroying, depriving of a great part of their territories, or reducing to political annihilation. In almost all these cases, however, the parties so treated were charged, and justly charged, with gross misgovernment; and however severely their downfall might be felt by themselves, it was an undoubted boon to the great body of their subjects. The administration of the Raja of Sattara, on the other hand, although, like every thing else about him, it has been overpraised, has, to say the least, been respectable, and in some views, even meritorious.

11. I do not mean that he is not occasionally guilty of oppression, or that he dispenses justice with impartiality, for he is a Native and a Mahratta; but he attends to business. His revenue management is efficient. If he quarrels with all his Jagheerdars, yet the lower classes of his subjects are content; and, at Sattara, where his revenues are spent freely, he is popular. I should be sorry, therefore, if we destroyed one of the very few among our Native allies whose administration our alliance has not rendered a curse to his people.

12. I am aware that it is the probable course, or, if I may so speak, the natural history, of such an empire as our's in India, that it gradually absorbs all the petty and dependent states attached to it; nor is there any reason to suppose that Sattara will not at length share the common fate. But I do not conceive that such a growth of our rule and dominions is to be regarded as an unmixed good, or that means should be used to accelerate its rate of advancement. On the contrary, I deem it our sacred duty, to keep down the expansion within the slowly progressive boundary prescribed by actual and irresistible necessity. We ought not to snatch with eagerness at occasions of aggrandizing our power or extending our territory, still less to seek or create them, as we shall almost unavoidably be hurried into acts of injustice and cruelty.

13. Without reference, however, to the general considerations on which I have touched, there are particular circumstances which would make it difficult for us to appropriate the Sattara territory to ourselves. The Raja is himself guilty; but there is no evidence of guilt on the part of his brother or his cousin, who, after him, are in the immediate line of succession. Would it be possible to set aside the whole family because the reigning prince has sinned, and sinned alone? I conceive not; and if not, then the convenience of annexing his country to our own can form no element of consideration in the present case. Further, we have already awarded punishment to the inferior agents in the recent plot. Is it then possible to accord a complete absolution to the most conspicuous, most dangerous, and most criminal offender?

14. To these considerations I would add those which are stated in our Consultations of the 12th December, in extenuation of the Raja's guilt, and which are equally arguments for treating him with lenity. I allude especially to the omission of the Resident in not earlier apprising Government of the alienated mind of the Raja. Had Colonel Lodwick done this, and had he himself

SATTARA
PAPERS.Minute
by the Govern
30 Jan. 1837

himself exercised over the Raja the influence and authority vested in him by the Treaty of 1819, the prince might have been checked in the very commencement of the dangerous course on which he is convicted of having entered. It is with great pain that I advert to this topic. I am willing to make every allowance for the Resident. Whatever symptoms of adverse feeling he might perceive in the demeanour of the prince, it certainly was not easy for him to foresee the lengths to which that feeling would hurry a person whose very existence was bound up in the favour of the British Government, and who had always spoken of that Government with gratitude and attachment. Still I cannot quite acquit Colonel Lodwick of a want of that care and vigilance in influencing and superintending the Raja's conduct which became his situation; and this circumstance seems to me to afford a fair plea in mitigation of the punishment with which that prince is to be visited.

15. I have reserved, however, to the last, what I consider as the strongest argument against punishing the Raja with severity. Though I think his offence clearly proved, yet those who do not examine the case very carefully, might very well be of a different opinion. There is no overt act, and there are many probabilities in his favour. I am satisfied, therefore, that, if we award to him any such punishment as shall be of material benefit to ourselves, the story of his guilt will never be believed. The traducers of the British name will point out the features of incredibility which the tale exhibits. They will dwell on the suspicious circumstance of the chief witnesses having been persons in British pay, and who confessed that they had sworn to the Raja falsely. They will then argue, that having made our use of this puppet prince, and now conceiving that his dominions will be a most convenient acquisition to ourselves, we have readily admitted, or even suborned, a calumnious accusation against him as an excuse for the fulfilment of our rapacious purposes. Such will be their representation; and it will, I fear, be very generally credited.

16. Let us not, without a paramount necessity, incur this reproach; let us not invite the imputation of having acted wickedly. A great deal has been said (whether truly or otherwise) of the misdeeds perpetrated by British ambition in the East: let us not needlessly afford colour to a new accusation of this sort. There are, indeed, reasons at the present time why we should be peculiarly careful to pursue towards our Indian allies and dependents a course of policy free from the slightest suspicion of selfish views or sinister management.

17. For these reasons, I am averse to a severe measure of retribution. Nor, on the other hand, would I recommend complete impunity. Whatever palliatives we may apply to the Raja's fault, we cannot say more for it, than that it was a comparatively trivial instance of an extremely serious offence. To corrupt the fidelity of our Native troops is to poison the very life-blood of our safety. An attempt so heinous ought not easily to meet with complete absolution. The proper fruit of crime is punishment; and if none is awarded, our proceedings in this case will be liable to misconception, and, I am afraid, to ridicule.

18. The arguments that will occur on the other side are these: that, if his Highness is completely forgiven, our immeasurable superiority to him in power will prevent all misconstruction of our motives, while, at the same time, our lenity will so excite his gratitude, as to bind him to us for ever; and, on the contrary, that punishment will fix in his mind a feeling of resentment which, if we leave to him any means of doing us mischief, may hereafter break out in worse acts than that of which he now stands convicted. From these premises it will perhaps be inferred, that we ought either to degrade him altogether, or forgive him freely.

19. On the former part of this reasoning I must remark, that the idea of securing the Raja's future fidelity by taxing his gratitude, proceeds on mistaken views of his position and his character. Little reliance can, I am afraid, be placed on the gratitude of any of the Indian states under our control or influence. Our hold is not on their gratitude, but on their fears and their prudence. Of the Mahrattas, in particular, it is known that they are most

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute.

by the Governor,
30 Jan. 1837.

selfish, treacherous, and uncertain. At all events, I am persuaded that the personal character of the Sattara Raja himself considerably differs from that which is imputed to him by those who know him only at a distance.

20. Captain Grant Duff, whose accuracy no one can dispute, informs us* that, bred amidst intrigues, and surrounded by profligacy, the Raja, when he ascended the musnud, knew nothing but the parade and etiquette of a court. "His whole family," the same author proceeds to observe, "entertained the most extravagant ideas of their own consequence, and their expectations were proportionate; so that, for a time, the bounty which they experienced was not duly appreciated." It is, indeed, well known, that the Raja's mother was with difficulty restrained from sending Vakeels to all the Courts of India.* If, however, even at the animating instant of elevation, the prince and his friends shewed little sense of the bounty which had transferred him from a prison to a throne, what chance is there that cool retrospection should awaken him to better feelings?

21. His personal vanity, which his best friends admit to be extreme, has been much more influenced, than his gratitude has been excited, by all the courtesy and compliments which, with the kindest intentions, have since been heaped upon him so lavishly. His flatterers tell him that, as the representative of Sevajee, he is entitled to govern a far ampler dominion than Sattara. The licentiousness of his private life, at the same time, tends to debase his general habits of thinking and feeling. Judging, in short, from the best materials in my power, I am satisfied that complete immunity from punishment would only bolster him up in false ideas of his own consequence and dignity. He would conceive that we either doubted his guilt, or deemed him too important to be punished.

22. With regard to the other part of the objection under consideration (namely, that by punishing the Raja moderately we shall excite his enmity, and at the same time leave him the means of giving that enmity effect), it seems to me to proceed on a tacit assumption that he is not guilty. If he has committed no crime, punishment will doubtless, and with great reason, incense his mind; and whatever power he is permitted to retain must, in that case, be regarded as a weapon put into the hands of a secret enemy. But I cannot see the force of the argument, on the supposition that we have come to a right decision on the question of his guilt or innocence. If he is guilty, whoever else may doubt the fact, he must be conscious of it himself, and must feel that, in being left Raja of Sattara, he is treated very leniently. This will probably not excite his gratitude, but at least it will afford him no ground of complaint; while, on the other hand, the very circumstance of his detection and punishment may be expected to operate as a check on his future conduct.

23. All the above considerations converge to the conclusion, that his Highness, for the offence which he has committed against the British power, should be subject to a moderate punishment. I also deduce from them the rule by which the nature of that punishment should be determined. The penalty should be such as to inflict a certain degree of privation on his Highness, with the least possible benefit to ourselves. It would be too much to say that we are not to profit by it at all; but whether we take from him power, dignity, or possessions, the proceeding should not be of such material advantage to ourselves, as may fairly excite a suspicion respecting the purity of our motives.

24. It will be for the Government of India to assign the particular punishment which shall be awarded in this case; but it will be our duty to place before that Government such modes of punishment as seem to us open for consideration, with our observations on each.

25. In this view, the following modes suggest themselves. But before stating them I would premise, that the selection need not be confined to any one of them singly. Two or more of them may easily be combined; or, as will afterwards appear, compounded together.

SATTARA
PAPERS.Minute
by the Governo
30 Jan. 1837.

- 1st. To deprive his Highness of a portion of his territory.
- 2d. To compel him to maintain, at the disposal of the British Government, a contingent of horse.
- 3d. To transfer from his authority to our own service such of his Jagheerders as will consent to the exchange.
- 4th. To deprive him of the compliment and privilege of having a British Resident stationed at his Court.

26. The first of these plans has much to recommend it, and I was for some time inclined to prefer it to all others. The portion of territory, if any, of which the Raja should be deprived, is clearly the district of Beejapore, a country which was ceded to his Highness, and, as I cannot but think, injudiciously, at a period subsequent to the Treaty of September 1819, and which would admirably serve to consolidate our dominion on the south-eastern quarter of Sattara, forming at the same time a most convenient accession to our new Collectorate of Sholapore. One consequent advantage, and one not to be despised, although exempt from political considerations, would be the preservation of the ancient city of Beejapore, and its magnificent collection of ruins, from the Vandalism of the Sattara Government, under which its devastation is advancing at a rapid rate.

27. Independent of all questions as to the particular district to be severed, this mode of mulcting the Raja has one great advantage. It is a single and decided transaction; a chastisement inflicted once for all, and not involving the continued risks and heart-burnings, which would probably result from several other arrangements that might be made; as, for example, from compelling the Sattara state to pay a stated tribute.

28. Notwithstanding, however, these advantages, my revised opinion is adverse to this method of punishment. The reason may be guessed from one of the foregoing paragraphs.* The advantage to us of seizing on Beejapore is too great, too obvious, to be pursued with safety to our reputation. We shall gain no credit for the honesty of our adjudication, which ends with putting us in possession of so tempting a prize. Nor is it only to the Beejapore district that I apply this remark. I do not know that there is any one part of the Sattara territory which we could conveniently sever from its present connexions and annex to our own provinces without subjecting ourselves to misconstruction.

29. The plan of saddling the Sattara revenues with the maintenance of a body of troops for our benefit is perhaps open to the same objections, but it is in a minor degree; while, at the same time, there is in the punishment something peculiarly appropriate to the offence committed. The Raja having meditated, however wildly, the subversion of our power by force of arms, and having attempted to corrupt our troops, we have some right to reduce his own military means, and to apply the funds thus spared to the increase of our materials of defence. Farther, this would only be a recurrence to an idea which was entertained originally; for it was, I believe, fully intimated on the first formation of the Sattara state, that the Raja should maintain a body of five hundred horse in our service, though that idea subsequently came to be abandoned.

30. This plan, however, includes a question of some moment, and perhaps of some difficulty. In what way is perpetual payment for the Sattara contingent to be secured? If no security be taken, then payment will never be obtained, except by dint of importunate application; and there is manifestly danger of that continued heart-burning which, as I have before observed, would be caused by the periodical exaction of tribute. If, on the contrary, we are to insist on having security, I can conceive none that would answer the purpose, excepting lands or revenues, either delivered over into possession, or at least assigned on mortgage; and then we are in some danger of getting back to the first plan of punishment, with all its enticements and objections.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Governor,
30 Jan. 1837.

31. Difficulties, however, cannot be wholly guarded against. We must be content with diminishing them to the least amount possible. If the plan of a Sattara contingent is to be adopted, the details of the plan should, perhaps, be as follows:—Let the Raja be bound to maintain in our service one hundred or one hundred and fifty horse, to be stationed where we please, and to be wholly under our control. Let there be a corresponding reduction of the Raja's own troops, such of his dismissed men as are able and willing to serve us being permitted to enter into the contingent. Let the revenues of Bcojapore, or a part of it, or of some other defined district, such as may be clearly adequate to answer the amount of the expense of the contingent, be appropriated as a security for payment. Let the amount and periods of payment be fixed; and let it be arranged that, on a stipulated payment being in arrear for three months, we shall at once be entitled to take possession of the territory assigned. Finally, let it be arranged, that when in possession of such territory, we shall account to the Raja for all the excess of revenue raised by us beyond what is required for the expense of the contingent, and that of collecting such revenue.

32. The contingent thus formed should, I conceive, be modelled precisely on the plan of the Poona Auxiliary Horse, a species of force which we have recently recommended to the Honourable Court for its cheapness and serviceableness, and which might, as I think, very usefully be augmented. The expense of the arrangement (which expense, as I have already explained, would be charged on a portion of the Sattara territory) must depend on the number of the troops to be maintained. Supposing them to be one hundred and fifty, the whole cost would not exceed about 6,000 rupees per mensem, or in round numbers, an annual sum of 70,000 rupees. If we are content with one hundred, the annual cost would fall short of 50,000 rupees.

33. The third course is to transfer to ourselves one or more of the great Jagheerdars who are now dependant on the Sattara state. They are as follows:

- The Raja of Akulkote,
- The Punt Prithie Nidhie,
- The Punt Sucheo,
- { The Jagheer of the Dufflays in the
- Purgunnah of Jhutt,
- The Nimbalkur.

34. I have before remarked* that the Raja is not on good terms with any of his Jagheerdars. The Raja of Akulkote, who is a minor, may perhaps be excepted. The Punt Prithie Nidhie formed; till lately, another exception. On the occasions when I have had the pleasure of seeing his Highness the Raja of Sattara, the Punt Prithie Nidhie has always been in attendance, and with every appearance of being in great favour. I learn, however, that matters have very recently altered: the Raja has interfered in the Punt's domestic affairs, and the chief resents his officiousness.

35. It would of course be impolitic to effect the arrangement now under consideration without the consent of the Jagheerdars themselves. But my belief is, that every one of them would willingly shift his feudatory allegiance (if I may apply that European term on the occasion) from the Raja of Sattara to the British Government. The Raja would, doubtless, exert his influence to retain them; but I know not in what way that influence could be made effective. His only hold was on their benevolence, which I believe him to have lost. Guaranteed as these chiefs are by the British Government, they are perpetually appealing to the Resident to protect them against the officious or arbitrary proceedings of their immediate superior; and though, on the elevation of the Raja, they or their predecessors voluntarily subjected themselves to his authority, I suspect that they would now very gladly be emancipated.

36. The transfer in question, whether it included one or more, or even all, of these Jagheerdars, would well answer the rule of punishment which I have before prescribed. The blow on the Raja would, proportionably, be far greater than the corresponding advantage to ourselves. His consequence would

GOVERNMENT OF BOMBAY.

would be diminished and his vanity deeply wounded, while to us the new connexion would bring an accession of trouble, and no accession of consequence at all. At the same time, the trouble would not be, nor ought to be, wholly without concomitant benefit. The chiefs owe certain services to the Raja, and their large possessions are to lapse to him on failure of heirs. In the case supposed, both the immediate advantage of the services, and contingent advantage of the lapses, would pass from the Raja to the British Government.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Govern
30 Jan. 1837

37. Should the Jagheerdars, however, be attached to the British Government in place of the Raja, and should any of them die without heirs, I do not think that the British Government ought to take possession of that part of the lapsed territory which happened to be situated within the ambit of the Raja's dominions. Nothing seems to me less desirable than that we should be introduced into the heart of the Sattara country. In this case, therefore, I should propose that it should be open to the Raja to redeem the territory so situated, either by paying to us a pecuniary consideration, or by giving in exchange for it other lands commodiously situated.

38. Let us suppose, for example, that the Punt Sucheo dies without heirs. The greater portion of his territory falls fairly without the continuation of the frontier line of the Sattara dominions, and might easily be annexed to ours. The rest, equal perhaps in revenue to about 12,000 rupees per annum, is within that line, and might be made over to the Raja on the terms I have mentioned.

39. It forms, however, an objection to any arrangement of the sort just described, that it leaves an opening for questions of difficult settlement on a future day. I further think that to transfer to ourselves all the great Jagheerdars whom I have named may involve us in more trouble and expense than would be desirable: I say expense, because such a transfer could not fail, in its effect, to add sensibly to the labours of the Agent for Sirdars at Poona, and might thereby compel us to augment the force of that department. On the whole, therefore, I incline to a more limited transfer, if any Jagheerdars are to be transferred to us at all, than that of the whole body.

40. The Raja of Akulkote is one of the most important among the Jagheerdars, and, of all of them, is, as I suspect, the most valued by the Raja of Sattara. The transfer of this chief's allegiance to the British Government would deeply mortify the Sattara Raja. It would further deprive him of a small number of horse, I think one hundred, with which Akulkote supplies him, and which, in the event supposed, would pass to our Government. Further, the whole of the Akulkote territory, should the chief's family become extinct, might easily be detached from Sattara, and annexed to the Collectorate of Sholapore. Lastly, I believe that the Akulkote Durbar would willingly agree to the transfer under consideration.

41. If I am correct in these premises the inference is obvious. Let the Raja of Akulkote, provided he consents, be disconnected from the Sattara State, and enrolled among the Jagheerdars attached to the British Government. Let him also be the only one of the Sattara Jagheerdars who shall be thus transferred; and the Sattara Raja will have been adequately punished.

42. I have yet to notice the last of the four modes of punishment before specified: It is, to deprive the Raja of Sattara of the privilege of having a British Resident stationed at his Durbar. He would, I believe, feel this deeply, as a diminution of his consequence; but, besides this, I conceive that no Resident is required exclusively for that state. The official journals of the present Resident may satisfy us that the office is not overdone with labour. My notion is, therefore, that for the performance of the Resident's duties, and for those also of the Collector of Belgaum, in his capacity of Political Agent in the Southern Mahratta country, a single officer should be appointed, with the title of Political Agent at Sattara and in the Southern Mahratta country. The Collector of Belgaum would thus be relieved from an onerous set of duties little comporting with his capacity of Collector, whilst due provision would be made for the political management of the

**SATTARA
PAPERS**

Minute
by the Governor,
30 Jan. 1837.

Sattara, and at the same time the change would operate as a punishment on the Raja.

43. I need scarcely say, that the measure last proposed might very well be adopted in connexion with any one or more of the three punishments before considered. Among these punishments, if there be any one which I am rather disposed to prefer, it is the transfer of the Raja of Akulkote from his connexion with Sattara to a connexion with the British Government; and if to this were united that modification of the office now exercised by the Resident at Sattara which I have last recommended, the measure of retribution dealt to the Raja might, perhaps, be deemed sufficient. I speak, however, with a considerable degree of doubt, and shall not be surprised if the Board, in the first place, or if the Government of India, in the last resort, shall be of a different opinion.

44. There are some points connected with the recent transactions which are not embraced either in this minute or in the recorded Consultations of the 12th December, and to which it will hereafter be my duty to call the attention of the Board separately.

45. Meanwhile, I trust I am not impertinently deviating from the severer business before us, if I on this occasion express my ardent hope that, whatever arrangement is now entered into with the Sattara State, some effectual provision may be made for the protection of the city of Beejapore from the devastations which it is suffering under the Mahratta rule. Considering the magnitude and magnificence of the ruins of that city, and the venerable recollections attached to them, I cannot but think that the credit of the British name is deeply concerned in protecting them, while in the hands of one of our dependents, from farther outrage and spoliation.

(Signed) R. GRANT.

30th January 1837.

Minute
by the Governor,
30 Jan. 1837.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Dated 30th January 1837.

(Subscribed by the Board.)

I have no doubt this memorandum contains all that can be made out in this matter.

It is plain that whoever in Bombay is in the secret of the plot has the prudence to keep silence.

We are obliged to the Chief Secretary for the pains he has taken.

This may be recorded in the Secret Department.

(Signed) R. GRANT.

30th January 1837.

Minute
by Mr. Ironside,
3 Feb. 1837.

MINUTE BY MR. EDWARD IRONSIDE,

Dated the 3d February 1837.

It is impossible to read the President's minute, and not be impressed with the solidity of the arguments which prevail throughout the whole paper. To say simply that I approve of the reasoning would be but a faint expression of my sentiments. It is, to my mind, so irrefragable, as to carry conviction in every sentence; whilst the humane policy which the minute inculcates, in awarding punishment to the infatuated and misguided prince whose delinquency has rendered him amenable to justice, is highly to be commended.

My opinion is, after deep reflection, that excessive severity is uncalled for in this case. We are bound, without doubt, to mark our sense of the Raja's misconduct; and I think this can be effected, sufficiently and amply, by removing the place of residence of the British Resident from Sattara. Such

by the Raja, or the people in general. The Resident would then, in addition to the Political affairs of Sattara, which would still remain under his control, although no longer residing permanently at his Highness's Court, be advantageously entrusted with all similar duties in the Southern Mahratta country, as proposed in the forty-second paragraph of the minute.

Should this punishment be deemed by the high authority to whom the matter is ultimately to be referred inadequate to the offence committed, the Raja might, in that case, be further required to maintain, at our disposal, a body of horse not exceeding one hundred and fifty in number, whose regular pay should be disbursed at stated periods; and, in the event of failing so to discharge the expenses of the Paga, the means proposed in paragraphs thirty and thirty-one might be followed.

Greater severity I am not prepared to advocate; and I would infinitely prefer, that either, or both of the above modes should be adopted, in preference to any of the other means pointed out, for inflicting chastisement on the guilty Raja.

In conclusion, and in respect to the last paragraph of the minute now before me, I can only say, that I earnestly trust some arrangement may be effected for the future preservation of the magnificent ruins in the ancient city of Beejapore. The opportunity must soon occur when this very desirable object might be secured, and I hope it may not be considered too unimportant to engage the attention of the Supreme Government.

(Signed) E. IRONSIDE.

3d February 1837.

MINUTE BY MR. JAMES FARISH,

Dated the 4th February 1837.

Having already acquiesced, on the fullest consideration, in the verdict of the Raja's guilt in the treasonable plotting against the British Government, which formed the subject of the Commission's investigation, it remains only to offer my opinion upon the degree and mode of punishment most suitable for the offence of the Raja, and for the dignity of the British Government to award. The full and discriminating view taken by the Right Honourable the Governor of the several sources which lie open to follow, and the bearings and probable effects to be anticipated from each, will place the Government of India in possession of every necessary consideration to guide their judgment in passing the requisite decision. I concur, in all respects, in the conclusion come to, that the transfer of the Akulkote Raja from his connexion with the Raja of Sattara to a connexion with the British Government, together with the proposed modification of the office of Resident at Sattara, would be sufficient punishment for the past, and be best suited to operate as a warning to him for the future.

I also view this as an occasion which, for the credit of the British name, should not be lost, of making effectual provision to protect the ancient city of Beejapore from further Mahratta depredation.

(Signed) J. FARISH.

4th February 1837.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Dated 8th March 1837.

(Subscribed to by Mr. James Farish.)

This is apparently a highly important document, and one which requires the most attentive consideration.

I think, however, copy should be sent to the Government of India immediately, and that authority informed that it has only just been received, and that we shall hereafter submit our comments upon it.

The Secretary will take every precaution to keep the document quite secret.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by Mr. Ironside
3 Feb. 1837.

Minute
by Mr. Farish
4 Feb. 1837.

Minute
by the Governor
8 March 1837.

SATTARA
PAPERS.Minute
of the Governor,
30 March 1837.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Dated 30th March 1837.

(Subscribed to by the Board.)

1. I consider the information we have received from Girjabae, the mother of Govind Row Dewan, to be highly important, and to form ground-work for further inquiry into the mysterious events at Sattara.

2. The only difficulty I feel is in devising a mode of inquiry by which secrecy should be observed, which I consider essential to the development of the truth.

3. I should feel no hesitation in extending a full pardon to Govind Row, on his making a free and candid acknowledgment of all he knows respecting the designs and proceedings of his Highness the Raja of Sattara; and from the following passage of the petition, it would appear that he is willing to make such a confession: "He is now in doubt, as to now confessing a transaction which he at first denied."

4. It occurs to me, however, that it may be desirable to refrain from any attempt to elicit the truth from this person until my next visit to the Deccan.

5. Govind Row's mother acknowledges that her son wrote letters of a treasonable nature, and mentions twelve persons who were concerned in the business. Unless, however, Govind Row is prepared to confess, I should not consider it advisable to institute any proceedings against these persons; at all events, until we hear from the Government of India. I have all along felt that the whole of the Raja's conduct has not come to light.

6. The health of Colonel Lodwick ill fits him to conduct the difficult and delicate investigation required, and I rather believe that he is about to leave Sattara for a time. I will immediately consider what substitute should be appointed; and under these circumstances a copy of this petition need not be sent to the Resident.

7. I think the information regarding the communications alleged to have taken place between the Raja of Sattara and the Putwurdhuns, should be immediately sent to Mr. Dunlop, not in the shape of an extract from the petition, but as information obtained by Government, without stating from what source.

8. Mr. Dunlop should be requested to keep this reference most secret, and to institute, indirectly, inquiries, with the view of ascertaining whether any such communication passed between the parties, and if possible, to obtain possession of any letters that may have been written by them.

9. Mr. Dunlop should be informed, that Government consider it of the highest importance to elicit the truth of this matter; that he is at liberty to offer liberal rewards and indemnity (subject to the confirmation of Government) to those who may furnish him with information; and that Government have every reliance on his zeal and discretion so to conduct the inquiry as will prevent any information transpiring. Amongst the numerous members of the Putwurdhun families, Government hope some will be found to possess sufficient loyalty towards the British Government to communicate freely any attempts which may have been made to seduce them from their allegiance.

10. This is all that I have to propose at the present moment; but a copy of this minute should be sent, without loss of time, to the Government of India.

(Signed)

* R. GRANT,
J. KEANE,
J. FARISH.

30th March 1837.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Dated 8th April 1837.

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SATTAR
PAPER.Minute
by the Govern
8 April 1837

MINUTE BY THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF,

Dated 11th April 1837.

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Minute by
the Command
in-Chief,
11 April 1837

MINUTE BY MR. JAMES FARISH,

Without Date.

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Minute
by Mr. J. Farish
(without date)

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Dated 11th April 1837.

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Minute
by the Govern
11 April 1837

MINUTE BY MR. JAMES FARISH,

Without Date.

(Subscribed to by the Commander-in-Chief.)

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Minute
by Mr. J. Farish
(without date)

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Dated 27th April 1837.

(Subscribed to by the Board.)

Minute
by the Govern
27 April 1837

1. In the resolutions adopted by the Board on the 12th December last, we notice as one of the palliating circumstances of the Raja of Sattara's conduct, "his fancying neglect on the part of this Government, in not promptly deciding on a question which had arisen regarding his Highness's rights over his Jagheerdars."

2. I shall now proceed to submit some remarks on this question : premising with a candid acknowledgment, that although I am happy to state that no substantial injustice has been suffered by the Raja in consequence of the delay of Government in answering his appeal on the subject, it would have been highly desirable that such delay should not have occurred. Pressure of business, however, in the first instance, and perhaps my inexperience in the management of it, prevented my giving to the subject that attention which its importance at that time undoubtedly demanded ; and, on the subsequent detection of the Raja's culpable conduct, I conceived that its importance merged in the more urgent considerations belonging to the occasion. I am still, in a measure, of this opinion ; yet the expediency of deciding the question cannot be denied.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Governor,
27 April 1837.

3. The question alluded to relates to the extent of the Raja's claims over the Jagheerdars subject to his authority. In a few words, his Highness claims the rights of sovereignty over all the possessions of these chiefs, whether situated within or without the limits of his own kingdom; involving, be it observed, this consequence, that in the event of any of those Jagheerdars dying without heirs, the lands of such persons, even though situated in the heart of the British possessions, would lapse to the Raja, and become a part of the immediate territory of Sattara.

4. His Highness founds this claim principally on the following passage in the schedule of the territory and revenue ceded to him by the first article of the Treaty concluded at Sattara on the 25th of September 1819: "Together with the possessions of the Raja of Akulkote, the Punt Sucheo, the Prithie Nidhie, and the jagheer of the Dullays in the pergunna of Jhutt."

5. Now, although the above passage is certainly wanting in precision, I am satisfied that the construction which his Highness has given to it is quite untenable, and altogether opposed to the views of the British Government in establishing the Sattara State, and to the declared intentions of the able men who framed the Treaty of Sattara.

6. With the view of arriving at a just conclusion on this point, I have endeavoured to ascertain from Mr. Elphinstone's correspondence with the Governor General of India, what were the views and intentions of that eminent personage in the formation of the Sattara State. In the Mahratta proclamation promulgated by this officer, and bearing date the 11th February 1818, these views are thus announced: "The Raja of Sattara, who is now a prisoner in Bajee Row's hands, will be released, and placed at the head of an independent sovereignty, of such an extent as may maintain the Raja and his family in comfort and dignity. With this view, the fort of Sattara has been taken, the Raja's flag has been set up in it, and his former ministers have been called into employment. Whatever country is assigned to the Raja will be administered by him, and he will be bound to establish a system of justice and order: the rest of the country will be kept by the Honourable Company."

7. I would ask whether, from this passage any other conclusion can be drawn than that a *definite* portion of the conquests made by us from the Peishwa was intended to be assigned to the Raja, and that all that was not so assigned was to remain, not only in the first instance, but permanently, in the hands of the Company?

8. The peculiar circumstances under which the Sattara State was established ought not to be lost sight of. The measure was one of the purest and most enlightened liberality. The whole of the Peishwa's dominions had become ours by the event of one of the most just wars that have been conducted in India. In the words of Mr. Elphinstone, "He (the Raja) was released from a prison, and was placed at the head of a government obtained by no effort of his own, but which was the spontaneous result of the liberality of the British Government." From these circumstances, I must contend, that with full powers to give or withhold what they pleased, the framers of the Sattara Treaty never could have intended to conclude an arrangement, which could not fail ultimately to extend the Raja's sovereignty and government over isolated parts of our own districts in the Dekhun and Khandeish, and even in the Southern Konkan.

9. We are not, however, left solely to rely on this inference, just and forcible as I consider it. I annex to this minute extracts from Mr. Elphinstone's letter to the Governor General of date the 18th June 1818, defining the limits which he proposed to assign to the Sattara State. In this it is explicitly recommended, "to assign to the Raja the territory bounded by the Neera on the north, the Wurna and the Kishna on the south, the Ghauts on the west, and the Nizam's frontier on the east, with the exception of the jagheers of the Putwurdh⁷³, and such others as the Governor General might think proper to exclude." It is impossible to misunderstand what were Mr. Elphinstone's

phinstone's intentions as conveyed in this passage. A compact territory is marked out for the Raja with natural boundaries, evidently with the object of obviating the evil of intermixture of jurisdictions, which would be created to an immense extent, were we to admit the Raja's present pretensions.

10. The tenor of Mr. Elphinstone's orders to Captain Grant, dated the 8th April 1818, support the same view of the case ; but more especially the following paragraph : " He (the Raja) can be allowed to hold all between the most " extended of the limits above noticed that already belongs to the Government " or may hereafter be resumed, and the Jagheerdars who are allowed to remain " may hold their lands of him ; with the exception of the Putwurdhuns, " whom it might be inconvenient to connect with the Raja, as the greater part " of their lands lie on the southern bank of the Kishna."

11. The instructions of the Governor General to Mr. Elphinstone, dated the 26th September 1818, would, even alone, be to my mind decisive of the question at issue : " His Lordship in Council will approve of the extension of " his territory to the widest limits you have proposed, and to place under his " authority those of the Jagheerdars *whose possessions fall within those general " limits, with the exception of the Putwurdhuns.*" It is here also worthy of remark, that, in the twenty-eighth paragraph of the letter from which the above quotation is made, certain lands which had formerly belonged to Rastiah and Gockla are granted to the Raja, because, among other reasons, they were situated " between the Neera and the Kishna," and if retained by the British Government would " be separated from our other territories, and be intermixed " with the possessions of the Raja, or those of his Jagheerdars." I consider the analogy here to be very striking.

12. In fact, however, the question at issue has already been decided against the Raja, not only by Lord Clare's Government, but likewise by the Government of India and by the Home Authorities. I refer to the case of Sheikh Meeran Waackur, reported on in a despatch of Lord Clare's Government, to the Court of Directors, dated the 17th June 1835. In their reply recently received, dated the 8th June 1836, the Court confirm the views of the Bombay Government ; but comply with its recommendation, that in consequence of the peculiar circumstances of the case, the jagheer in question, which for the most part is situated in Candesh, should be continued to Sheik Meeran's son for his own life, " the British Government taking, in consideration of that favour, such " an amount of nuzzurana as the circumstances of the case might justify."

13. I cannot here refrain from quoting the eighth paragraph of the letter to the Honourable Court, reporting, as above-mentioned, on the Waackur's case, not only because it contains the views of Lord Clare's Government on the general question, but also because it very forcibly points out the evils which would result from our admitting the Raja's pretensions to extend his jurisdiction into the heart of our own districts.

14. " The Raja of Sattara has advanced claims to sovereignty over these British jagheers. By acknowledging this right, we should destroy one of the " fundamental privileges on which Mr. Elphinstone settled the Dekhun, " namely, to establish a small sovereignty in the middle of the Dekhun, " extending from the Neera and the Bheema to the Kishna and Wurna " rivers, and from the western Ghauts to the city of Punderpoor. The prac- " tical result of the Raja's pretensions would be, the extension of the arm of " his sovereignty, not only into the heart of the Zillahs of Ahmednuggur and " Khandesh, but even beyond the Dekhun itself, into the southern Konkan, " where the Punt Sueho has landed property."

15. In his letter of the 3d July 1835, Colonel Lodwick argues in favour of the Raja's claim ; but there is nothing, I think, in that letter, which is not fully answered by the observations above made. A copy of that letter should, however, be sent to the Government of India with this minute. It seems to me to be quite clear, that if it had been intended to include in the treaty the possessions of the Jagheerdars beyond the Raja's limits, those possessions would have been expressly mentioned in the schedule annexed to the treaty.

SATTARA
PAPERS.Minute
by the Governor,
27 April 1837.

16. In his seventh paragraph, Colonel Lodwick states, that the question has been decided in favour of the Raja, by the following passage of a letter from the Court of Directors, dated the 26th December 1834. "In default of heirs by birth or adoption, the obligation of our guarantee ceases, and the jagheers must lapse to the Raja." I have no doubt, however, that the Resident erroneously interprets the intentions of the Court, as far as relates to the possessions of these Jagheerdars in our territory; and I should have thought so, even if the recent decision of the Court in the Wapekur's case did not clearly indicate that, in their opinion, such possessions, in default of heirs, appertain to the British Government.

17. I must further remark, that the opinion of the Honourable Court was elicited by Colonel Robertson's report of the 31st December 1831, from which I have annexed an extract (paragraphs 17 to 48) as an appendix to the present minute. This extract contains some very useful information regarding the Sattara Jagheerdars; and although Colonel Robertson does not express this in terms, it is, I think, to be inferred that he was favourable to the Raja's pretensions. Lord Clare's Government differed in opinion with the Resident, conceiving that he claimed for the Raja a more extensive authority over the Jagheerdars than was warranted by the Treaty, and Colonel Lodwick was so advised on the 15th March 1832.

18. It is here, I think, very important to observe, that, in the first instance, the discussion of the question was between the Resident and Government, the Raja taking no part in it. Ultimately, however, and, it may be presumed, encouraged by a knowledge of the opinions entertained by the British Representatives, the Raja set forth his present pretensions, and addressed letters to Mr. Elphinstone, Colonel Robertson, and Captain Grant Duff, appealing to them to interpret the treaty in his favour.

19. These letters were forwarded to the Court of Directors, together with Colonel Robertson's despatch of the 31st December 1831, on the 16th April 1833, and were returned by the Court to this Government in their letter of the 24th September 1834, when the Court explained their views regarding the extent of the Raja's rights over the Jagheerdars "in the Sattara territory." It is however, I think, quite evident, that the Honourable Court did not enter into the merits of the real question at issue. This Government has all along fully recognized the Raja's sovereignty over the possessions of the Jagheerdars named in the Treaty *within his territory*, but it disputes his sovereignty over their possessions *without his territory*. To this wide distinction the Court's letter makes no allusion. As above stated, however, in the fourteenth paragraph, they have, in a particular instance, given a decision against the Raja; and I am not, I think, wrong in considering that decision as confirming generally my views of the inadmissibility of the Raja's claims.

20. If I thought otherwise, I should certainly feel disposed to take advantage of the Raja's recent misconduct to declare that, whatever may have been the intentions of those who framed the treaty, his right to extend his sovereignty into the heart of our dominions cannot now be admitted. To speak more plainly, I would declare that his Highness has forfeited whatever right he may possess over the possessions of those Jagheerdars situated within our territory, as a punishment of the breach of friendship and good faith of which he has been guilty. It was to this consideration I alluded when I observed, at the beginning of this paper, that the recent misconduct of the Raja had diminished the importance of discussing his present claim. Denying, however, as I do, his right of sovereignty over such possessions, I should consider it unnecessary to have recourse to recent occurrences, in order to avoid the difficulty and embarrassment which would be created by an admission of his claim; nor can I deny that, since those occurrences, the question has regained somewhat of its importance, in consequence of the demise, without heirs, of the Punt Suchoo.

21. With regard to the question alluded to in the thirteenth and following paragraphs of Colonel Lodwick's letter, that officer should, I think, be informed, that Government cannot admit the claim of the Raja to succeed to the

the jagheers alluded to, on the vague extract which he makes from a letter of Mr. Elphinstone's; but that, if he is able to produce the list which, for reasons not stated, he supposes to have been made of these jagheers, or any other evidence in support of the Raja's claim of succession, Government will not fail to give its best attention to the information so transmitted.

SATTARA.
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Govern-
27 April 1856.

22. The question of the jagheer village of Cowtalee being a distinct and isolated one, I shall reserve my sentiments on it for a separate minute.

23. I must now request the attention of my colleagues to Colonel Lodwick's letter of the 20th June 1836, reporting that the Raja of Sattara was preparing an embassy for England, to urge on the Home Authorities his claims to the rights disputed. This letter was yet under my consideration, when, about a fortnight after it reached my hands, I received private intimation of his Highness's attempts on the fidelity of the Native officers of the 23d regiment. The minor question of the propriety of a direct communication between the Raja and the Home Authorities was absorbed in those of greater, though unascertained extent, which now arose, affecting all our relations with Sattara, and for all that appeared, the very existence of that principality. Recurring now, however, to the former question, I am not prepared to state that his Highness is not at liberty to make an immediate appeal to the Authorities in England; but I feel quite confident that, when what has transpired at Sattara has been communicated to those Authorities, his embassy, should it reach England, will be rejected. I am not certain whether the embassy has actually proceeded, and the Resident at Sattara should be requested to report whether he has any further information on the subject. In the mean time, a copy of his letter of the 20th June should be sent to the Government of India.

24. With reference to the sixth paragraph of this letter, I deem it right to record, that when I met the Raja on the hills in May last, the question regarding his Highness's rights over his Jagheerdars was discussed at a private interview between us. The Raja contended with some warmth for the validity of his claims, and expressed disappointment at the delay which had occurred in deciding the question. At that time, although I had not given to the subject that careful examination which I have since bestowed on it, I had sufficiently considered it to be of opinion, that the claims of his Highness stood on very questionable ground. I did not feel it necessary, however, nor expedient, to declare myself strongly on a question which both parties understood to be still under reference to higher authority.

25. I must here affirm, however, that I positively informed the Raja, that the question had thus been referred home; I also promised that the Court should again be addressed on the subject, and their early adjudication solicited. It is necessary that I should make this averment, because, from what misconception I know not, the Raja, in his conversation with the Resident, detailed by the latter in his letter of the 20th June, stated that I had told him that no representation of the case had been made to the Court of Directors; and this statement Colonel Lodwick himself seems in that letter to adopt. Colonel Lodwick, however, has since acknowledged, that the statement was erroneous, and his admission, as well as the distinct recollection of the Political Secretary, who was present and the principal spokesman on the part of Government, bear out my assertion above made to the contrary.

26. In mentioning to Colonel Lodwick at the time, that the claim had been referred home, I recollect intimating, that it had not been accompanied with any discussion of its merits on the part of the Bombay Government. My impression and belief were, however, that we had referred home Colonel Lodwick's own letter of 3d July 1835. I afterwards found that, by that letter having been accidentally mislaid, it had not been so referred; but I also found that, in the case already mentioned in this minute, of Sheikh Khan Mahomed, son of Sheikh Meeran Waeekur, the claim of the Raja, on which the merits of that case entirely turned, had been distinctly referred to the Honourable Court. Thus my assurance to the Raja, of the desired reference having been made, which was given on the 11th of July 1835, is proved to be correct.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Governor,
27 April 1837.

verified; and I have only to regret that I did not add, which I might truly have done, that the reference had taken place ten months previous to our interview, and that an answer might very shortly be expected.

27. With relation to this interview with the Raja, I must advert also to another point. Colonel Lodwick, in the letter of the 20th June, states his belief, that the Raja then hinted to me his intention of appealing to the Honourable Court; adding, that the Raja "certainly has a full conviction of his having done so." In a conversation which lasted, I should think, about two hours, and which was principally maintained by the Raja himself, who speaks a bad sort of Hindostanee, but with incredible velocity, I cannot answer that some obscure hint to the effect mentioned by Colonel Lodwick may not have escaped from his Highness, unnoticed; but I can positively say, that I have not the slightest recollection of it, nor has the Political Secretary; and I conceive it impossible that so important a communication, had it been made intelligible, would have been overlooked or forgotten by either.

28. With reference to the following extract from Colonel Lodwick's evidence before the Commission, I would propose that we suggest to the Government of India, that the Raja should be required to dismiss from his service, and expel from his territory, the persons alluded to. A requisition fully authorized, I conceive, by the existing treaty with his Highness.

29. I attribute the change in his Highness's conduct to his having attached himself to two persons in particular, Bulwunt Row Chitnavces and Abah Parusnees, who are generally reported to be corrupt. They are in his full confidence, and they abuse it; and it has been long the general opinion at Sattara that they would be the cause of his ruin. These persons were, during Captain Grant's time, the one suspected, and the other proved guilty of receiving bribes. Bulwunt Row was pardoned at the strong intercession of his Highness, and Abah Parusnees was expelled the Raja's territory, and did not return until 1828-29. I am further decidedly of opinion, that they are men of very bad character, and unfit to act as counsellors to his Highness. Further inquiry may establish the guilt of these men, and severer measures may be called for against them, but their dismissal and expulsion should at all events be required.

30. In the last paragraph of their Report, the Commission bear the following favourable testimony to the conduct and character of the two Native officers and Havildar of the 23d Regiment Native Infantry, who announced the attempts made by the Raja on their loyalty.

31. "To conclude, we have the highest satisfaction in stating, that the two Native officers and the Havildar appear to us to be free from taint of any kind, and that, with the exception of the laxity of morals apparent in the conduct of the first Soobadar, in going through the form of binding himself to the Brahmin by an oath which he had no intention to keep, their conduct is deserving of the highest praise. Immediately their fidelity was assailed, they communicated, like loyal and faithful soldiers, with their superiors, and although, towards the close of the affair, they may be charged with over-zeal, still at every stage of the proceeding they acted under the authority and directions of their officers. We feel it therefore to be a most pleasing duty, to recommend them, but more particularly the Soobadar, Sewgoolam Sing, to the favourable notice of Government, for such honourable distinction and rewards as their conduct and services may appear to merit."

32. I quite concur with the Commission in the above remarks, and I think it will be good policy on the part of Government to testify, in the most public manner, the good opinion which we entertain of these deserving soldiers. If the Government of India are pleased to approve of the arrangement of placing Parghur, and the two other Native forts in the Southern Mahratta country, under the charge of Native officers, I think the Soobadars, Sewgoolam Sing and Gooljar Missi, might be nominated to two of the commands which will be thus created. This will occasion promotion in the corps generally, which

quested to promote the Havildar, should he be reported qualified to hold a commission.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Govern
27 April 1837

33. In case, however, the arrangement respecting the forts is not carried into effect, no other mode occurs to me of rewarding the officers, than by appointing them supernumerary Soobadar-Majors, and the Havildar a supernumerary Jemidar, with the pay of those grades, and to be absorbed as vacancies occur. On this point I request to be favoured with the opinion of his Excellency the Commander-in-Chief.

34. In either case, I would propose that each of these men should receive an honorary dress from my hands on the first convenient opportunity of the values following :—

Soobadar Sewgoolam Sing, one valued at	-	-	300 Rs.
— Gooljar Missur	-	-	200
Havildar Chunder Sing	-	-	100

35. I may here mention, that having learned from Major Wilson, the officer commanding the 23d Regiment, that the Soobadars were in doubt how their conduct had been viewed by Government, and that the misrepresentations which appeared in the *Gazette* newspaper had created bad impressions in their minds, I caused them to be introduced to me at Parell, and assured them that their conduct had afforded Government the highest satisfaction, and that the due acknowledgment of it was under consideration.

36. I think an extract from the Commission's proceedings, relating to the conduct of Captain Hand, of the Grenadiers, in maintaining a correspondence with one of the chief officers of the Sattara State, should be sent to his Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, with the request of Government, that he will seriously reprimand that officer for his highly irregular and indiscreet conduct. Captain Scott, of the 23d Regiment, likewise acted with great indiscretion, in writing to his friends at Bombay what had happened at Sattara.

37. In conclusion, I have only to propose that the Sattara Commission should be informed, that Government are, in the highest degree, satisfied with the zeal, judgment, ability, and activity, which they evinced in the prosecution of the highly important and equally delicate investigation entrusted to their charge. I confess that, in my opinion, only two out of the three Commissioners are entitled to so high an acknowledgment; but I do not know that we can well make distinctions in our meed of approbation, and for all practical purposes the acts of the majority are the acts of the Commission.

(Signed) R. GRANT.

27th April 1837.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Without Date.

Minute
by the Governor
(without date).

I cannot concur in Mr. Dunlop's remark regarding the Meruj Kur. His being a sot would, I think, be very likely to render him the dupe of others, and by them easily persuaded to engage in intrigues.

Though some of the Putwurdhuns are boys, it does not follow that communications may not have been made to them, or what would be nearly the same thing, to those in charge of their affairs.

Mr. Dunlop's further report should be awaited.

(Signed) R. GRANT.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Dated 5th June 1837.

Minute
by the Governor
June 1837.

(Subscribed to by the Commander-in-Chief)

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**SATTARA
PAPERS.**

Minute
by Mr. J. Farish,
(without date).

MINUTE BY MR. JAMES FARISH,*Without Date.*

* * * * *

Minute
by the Governor,
18 June 1837.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,*Dated 18th June 1837.*

1. Copies of my two minutes, regarding the supersession of Colonel Lodwick as Resident at Sattara, and the appointment of Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans to officiate in that capacity, should be sent to the Government of India.

2. The instructions recently issued to Colonel Ovans should also immediately be sent to the same authority.

3. Some explanation is required of the delay which has occurred in instituting an inquiry into the facts set forth in the letter received from the mother of Govind Rao Dewan. That delay has, I fear, continued too long; but I trust that no public inconvenience is likely to occur.

4. The Government of India will, on reference to our proceedings, observe that the delay alluded to originated in our conviction that this important inquiry could not with safety be entrusted to the late Resident, and that, so long as we were in doubt regarding his intentions to apply for leave on sick certificate, which at one period was confidently expected, we naturally felt reluctant to wound his feelings by superseding him in his office.

5. Colonel Lodwick's letter, proposing the expulsion of Bulwunt Row Chitnavces from Sattara, should also be sent to Calcutta; with an intimation that we do not intend to act on the suggestion at present, among other reasons because we are of opinion that, whatever measures are ultimately adopted against the Raja, should be carried into effect at one and the same time.

* * * * *

7. I at one time thought of requiring from Dr. Milne, as a British subject and as a pensioned servant of Government, to declare the nature of the intercourse which he may have had with the Raja, and to transmit to us any correspondence which may, either directly or indirectly, have passed between them.

8. On reflection, however, I think, that, as the whole case is in the hands of higher authority, we ought not to act for ourselves, but to refer the point to them. I have no doubt he ought to be called to account.

9. Mr. Dunlop's reply to our reference, on the subject of the Raja of Sattara's proceedings, should also be sent to the Government of India.

10. Our proceedings, up to this date, should immediately be reported to the Secret Committee, in continuation of former reports.

18 June 1837.

(Signed) R. GRANT.

Minute
by the Governor,
(without date).

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,*Without Date.*

(Subscribed to by the Board.)

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MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Dated 28th June 1837.

(Subscribed to by his Excellency the Commander-in-Chief.)

SATTARA
PAPERS.Minute
by the Govern
28 June 1837

1. I entirely approve of the whole of Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans's proceedings, reported in his letter of the 24th instant.

2. With reference to the fifth paragraph, there can be no doubt that the Commission which assembled at Sattara, being of necessity secret, no part of its proceedings could, with propriety, be communicated in writing to any one but Government.

3. It appears from the Commission's proceedings, that the evidence against the Raja was fully explained to his Highness; and it is quite clear that his Highness understood the nature of the charges preferred against him, by his endeavouring, however unsatisfactorily, to exonerate himself from them. The Commission further offered to confront the Raja with his accusers, but he declined.

4. With reference to the Raja's complaint, that two of the members of the Commission left Sattara without visiting him, Mr. Willoughby informs me that the invitation to visit his Highness was entirely of a complimentary nature, and had no reference whatever to the inquiry into the Raja's proceedings, which had terminated.

5. I think Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans acted judiciously in postponing the inquiry we have ordered respecting the letter received from Girjabhaee. It must be obvious that, so long as the belief exists at Sattara that Colonel Lodwick's supersession was adopted to gratify the Raja, no one will venture to communicate to his successor information regarding his Highness's designs against Government. As observed by the Acting Resident, it is not to be wondered at that such an impression should have been created, because we have ample evidence that the Raja anxiously desired to effect Colonel Lodwick's removal.

6. The public interests, therefore, imperatively require that we should endeavour to dispel this illusion; and I am not aware of any measure better calculated to produce this result than the one proposed by the Acting Resident, namely, Govind Row's removal from Poona to Ahmednugger.

7. If my Colleagues concur in the adoption of this measure, I request that no time be lost in issuing orders to the Sessions Judge at Poona, to forward Govind Row, under a suitable escort, to the custody of the Judge at Ahmednugger.

8. The usual warrant should be addressed to the Judge of Ahmednugger. That officer should be instructed to place the prisoner in strict confinement, and to prevent his holding any communication with any person besides his personal attendants, or those in whom the Judge has confidence. Every attention, compatible with the above object, should be paid to the prisoner's comfort and convenience.

9. The Judge should be further informed, that it is not unlikely the friends of Govind Row at Sattara and Poona will endeavour to communicate with him by letters, and that he should quietly adopt measures to intercept any communications of this kind and forward them to Government.

10. With reference to the letter which the Raja is desirous that I should write to him, Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans may be informed that the request is quite inadmissible. Under no circumstances should I consider myself at liberty in the terms which he has dictated, and which would be construed to imply that Government had acted unjustly towards his Highness. No communication need, however, be made at present to the Raja on the subject.

Z

11. Lieutenant

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Governor,
28 June 1837.

11. Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans should also be informed of the removal of Govind Row, as he has suggested, and copy of his letter, as well as of this minute, should be immediately forwarded for the information of the Government of India.

28th June 1837.

(Signed) R. GRANT,
J. KEANE.

Minute by
Mr. James Farish,
30 June 1837.

MINUTE BY MR. JAMES FARISH,

Dated 30th June 1837.

The only question on which any doubt could be entertained is the removal of Govind Row to Ahmednugger. The absolute necessity of putting an end to the erroneous expectations of his release, in order to obtain the important information which Geerjabace and the parties named by her may be able to communicate, fully warrants his being placed under greater personal restraint and stricter guard; and under the injunction, that every attention be paid to his comfort and convenience compatible with those objects, he will be subjected by the removal to no hardship, of which a person, convicted as he has been, can with reason complain. I therefore fully concur in that measure, and in all the sentiments expressed in the Right Honourable the Governor's minute.

30th June 1837.

(Signed) J. FARISH.

Minute
by the Governor,
3 July 1837.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Dated 3d July 1837.

(Subscribed to by the Board.)

1. Copy of this letter should be immediately sent to the Government of India, with an intimation that it is not our intention to adopt any measures to interrupt the Raja's communications with Dr. Milne and others in Bombay, until we are favoured with the instructions already solicited.

2. At the same time we may offer an opinion, that this intercourse is a direct violation of the fifth article of the Treaty with the Raja of Sattara, dated 25th September 1819.

3. That article is quite explicit, and seems as if framed by design to meet a case of this kind.

"The Raja, for himself and for his heirs and successors, engages to forbear from all intercourse with foreign powers, and with all Sirdars, Jagheerdars, chiefs and ministers, and all persons of whatever description, who are not by the above articles rendered subject to his Highness's authority."

It is then added: "This article is a fundamental condition of the present agreement, and any departure from it on the Raja's part shall subject him to the loss of all the advantages he may gain by the said agreement."

4. The Raja has openly avowed being in communication with Dr. Milne, and perseveres in such communication, notwithstanding Colonel Lodwick has warned him that such conduct is a violation of the treaty.

5. I do not, therefore, see any advantage in this warning being repeated.

(Signed) R. GRANT.

3d July 1837.

Minute
by the Governor,
3 July 1837.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Dated 3d July 1837.

(Subscribed to by the Board.)

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Dated 5th July 1837.

(Concurred in by the Board.)

I have already recorded my opinion, that Colonel Lodwick was wrong in refusing to forward any representation which his Highness the Raja wished to make to the Government. We have, however, rectified his mistake, and the rejected document is now before us.

If I recollect right, Colonel Lodwick stated, that the cause of refusing to send the *yad* of fifteen paragraphs was, because it abounded in misstatements.

I think, therefore, it is due to that officer to send this paper (in original) for any explanations or remarks he may wish to offer; and until his answer is received, I shall not myself offer any comment upon it, or upon the Raja's letters which accompanied it, dated 23d May and 28th June last.

(Signed) R. GRANT,
J. KEANE,
J. FARISH.

5th July 1837.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Dated 5th July 1837.

(Concurred in by the Board.)

The information which Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens reports in this letter may prove of the highest importance.

There can be no doubt that the measure suggested, of seizing the persons named in the fifth paragraph, must be ultimately adopted; but it would, I think, be premature at the present moment.

Govind Row Dewan left Poona this morning for Ahmednugger; and it is very desirable the Acting Resident should watch the effect of his removal, before adopting the decisive measures he suggests.

In communicating this opinion, Colonel Ovens may, however, be informed, that in the event of his being satisfied that the persons referred to, meditate escape from Sattara, it is left to his judgment and discretion to secure them; but that Government are of opinion the measure should be delayed as long as possible.

(Signed) R. GRANT,
J. KEANE,
J. FARISH.

5th July 1837.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Dated 10th July 1837.

(Subscribed to by the Board.)

I learn from a private letter addressed by Colonel Ovens to Mr. Willoughby, that the mother of Govind Row Dewan voluntarily sought and obtained an interview with Colonel Ovens, the night before the seizure herein mentioned took place. I should, at any rate, have been satisfied that Colonel Ovens had rightly exercised his discretion in determining on those seizures, even if that proposition had not been clear to myself; but the fact of an interview with the before

Minute
by the Governor
10 July 1837.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Governor,
10 July 1837.

before-mentioned lady having been secured, removes every doubt that I might have felt, and I think Colonel Ovans's proceedings should be entirely approved. An official letter is to come to-morrow announcing the fact of the lady's visit.

(Signed) R. GRANT.

10th July 1837.

Minute
by the Governor,
12 July 1837.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Dated 12th July 1837.

(Subscribed to by the Board.)

1. Every precaution must be taken to keep this annunciation (which, as far as it goes, is satisfactory) quite secret.

2. The Acting Resident should endeavour to obtain from Girjabae a written statement of all she knows regarding her son's proceedings and those of the Raja. This may be done, either at another interview, or, if she prefers it, she can send the statement.

3. A similar statement should be taken from each of the two persons who accompanied the lady, and their information will, no doubt, guide Colonel Ovans in making other inquiries.

4. It is very probable that this lady disavows the letter received by Government in her name, from fear of the consequences of discovery of having communicated with Government.

5. Be this as it may, Colonel Ovans will naturally endeavour to find out and examine the writer.

6. When the Acting Resident is convinced that secrecy is no longer necessary or practicable, he will adopt measures to secure protection to Govind Row's family from the Raja's vengeance.

7. Colonel Ovans will ascertain on what grounds the lady and her confidants are able to state that the contents of the letter written in her name are true.

(Signed) R. GRANT.

12th July 1837.

Minute
by the Governor,
15 July 1837.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Dated 15th July 1837.

(Concurred in by the Board.)

1. The evidence of Abba Mareek is highly important.

1st. As confirming the statement of the Soobadars, regarding the meeting between them and Govind Row.

2d. As confirming the Raja's guilt. For if his Highness had not been implicated, he would not have desired Abba Mareek to keep out of the way after Govind Row's arrest.

2. In entirely approving Colonel Ovans's proceedings, it may be suggested to him, whether Dinkur Row should not be interrogated on the subject of the message he delivered to Abba Mareek, the time for doing so being entirely left to his discretion.

3. I wish this letter, and the report of the conference with the mother of Govind Row, to be returned to me; for, at this stage of Colonel Ovans's inquiries,

ries, it is, I think, inexpedient to make a report to Calcutta. In short, I wish all the Acting Resident's reports to be returned to me.

(Signed)

R. GRANT,
J. KEANE,
J. FARISH.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Govern
15 July 1837

15th July 1837.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Dated 21st July 1837.

(Concurred in by the Board.)

Minute
by the Govern
21 July 1837.

I do not think any notice should, for the present, be taken of this communication, which, I think, betrays the Raja's uneasiness, arising from consciousness of guilt.

The Acting Resident should be requested to follow up the inquiries he has so ably commenced, and be told that, while precipitation should be avoided, it is desirable that his investigations should be brought to a termination as early as practicable.

(Signed)

R. GRANT,
J. KEANE,
J. FARISH.

21st July 1837.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Dated 24th July 1837.

(Subscribed to by the Board.)

Minute
by the Governor,
24 July 1837.

1. This despatch contains important information, and I see no reason to doubt the truth of the history now given by the uncle and mother of Govind Row of the petition forwarded to Government in the name of the former.

2. It is, however, I conceive, of the first importance, that the writer of the letter, named Mahdeo Fugree, should be examined, and Colonel Ovans should be requested to endeavour to procure his attendance at Sattara for that purpose.

3. The precautions adopted by the parties were very natural, when we reflect that they were entirely in the Raja's power when the petition was transmitted, and we cannot too often enjoin on the Resident the necessity of his now adopting efficient measures for their security and protection.

4. Orders should be immediately sent to the Judge of Ahmednuggur to permit any person deputed by Colonel Ovans to have free access to Govind Row; and I think the Acting Resident should be informed that any communication which Govind Row may think fit to make should be delivered to, and witnessed by the Judge.

5. With reference to Colonel Ovans's suggestions in his last paragraph, I have such confidence in his judgment and discretion, that I am willing to grant him full authority to act as he may deem most conducive to the objects of the inquiry in progress, and to eliciting the truth.

6. The statement of the person alluded to in the sixth paragraph should be submitted to Government as early as practicable.

(Signed)

R. GRANT.

21st July 1837.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Governor,
25 July 1837.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Dated 25th July 1837.

(Subscribed to by the Board.)

Colonel Ovans's proceedings should be approved, and the measures he proposes in the last paragraphs of his letter should be authorized.

I quite agree with Colonel Ovans that the Bramin Purshotam might disclose a good deal more than he has yet stated. He was in daily intercourse with Appa Sahib Bhonsla at Nagpore, and there seems little doubt that the details of the plot in which the Bhonsla was engaged formed, at least, one subject of these conferences.

There is also strong reason to suspect, that there were parties to these designs at Gwalior; but it may be difficult to penetrate the mystery, which, as Colonel Ovans observes, involves this part of the subject. It would, I think, be premature, at present, to make any communication on the matter to the Resident at Gwalior, but it will probably be necessary hereafter.

(Signed) R. GRANT,
J. FARISH.

25th July 1837.

P.S. Mr. Willoughby suggests that this letter and the accompaniments might be sent confidentially to the Governor of Agra, in order that they may prosecute any of the inquiries arising out of them as they may think fit, and I accede to the suggestion; but that Government should be earnestly requested to guard against the possibility of these matters transpiring prematurely.

(Signed) R. GRANT,
J. KEANE,
J. FARISH.

Minute
by the Governor,
26 July 1837.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Dated 26th July 1837.

(Subscribed to by the Board.)

1. In reference to paragraph four of this important letter, I request that the Secretary with me will have the goodness to repair immediately to the principal Collector of Poona, and request him immediately to summon and examine the Hubshee's Vakeel on the matters to which Colonel Ovans alludes.

2. The Magistrate should, I think, conduct the examination; but I will thank Mr. Willoughby to be present, as, from his perfect acquaintance with the whole of this case, he may suggest to Mr. Mills many important questions.

3. From the deposition of the Chitnavacs's messenger, it appears to be by no means certain that the Vakeel is now in Poona. Should he have taken his departure for the Hubshee's country, the Magistrate should use all the means in his power to discover and apprehend him, if he is still within our territories; but if he has past the frontier, he might address the Hubshee or his Minister (according as the usage is), requesting that the Vakeel may be sent to him.

4. On the other points which this letter suggests for consideration, I will reserve myself until I learn the result of the examination above directed.

5. I ought to add, that Mr. Willoughby is at full liberty to disclose confidentially

fidentially to Mr. Mills, all or any matters which he sees to be essential to the inquiry which that officer is hereby directed to make.

6. The Board will, I trust, approve my taking on myself to issue the above directions.

(Signed) R. GRANT,
J. KEANE,
J. FARISH.

26th July 1837.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Govern-
26 July 1837.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Dated 27th July 1837.

(Concurred in by the Board.)

Minute
by the Governor
27 July 1837.

1. I do not think it expedient to endeavour to apprehend this Vakeel at Bombay; but I would request the Chief Secretary to take the trouble of ascertaining privately, if possible, whether the individual in question is or not now in Bombay.

2. The prevarication of the deponent Bulwunt Row, awakens suspicions that he is in some sort of understanding with the parties interested in defeating the inquiries of Government; and I own that, with me, these suspicions involve the deponent's brother, Succaram Bappoo, the mail contractor, whose name has several times been mentioned in the recent correspondence relative to the Sattara affairs.

3. In reference to the last remark, I cannot help being of opinion, that Government ought not to confide to any Native, perhaps ought to keep in its own hands, that important part of its functions, the conduct of the public post. This point may now stand for further consideration.

4. The result of the Magistrate's inquiry may now be communicated to Colonel Ovens, whose proceedings should be entirely approved, and who may be authorized to summon Bulwunt Row Chitnavees, and examine him in the manner suggested in paragraph five of his letter of 24th instant, and, if he thinks it expedient, to detain that individual in custody, pending a reference to Government for instructions.

(Signed) R. GRANT,
J. KEANE,
J. FARISH.

27th July 1837.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Dated 4th August 1837.

Minute
by the Governor
4 Aug. 1837.

1. The evidence accompanying this letter is strongly confirmatory of the fact of the clandestine interview between the Raja and the two Native officers introduced to him by Govind Row, respecting which, however, I have never entertained any doubt.

2. In two of these statements it is stated that Abba Mohiteh observed, "moreover, rolls of papers regarding Nagpore will come out."

3. I think Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens should be directed to examine all the parties on this point, and to endeavour to ascertain what papers are referred to.

4. To save time, the Secretary with me may make this reference.

4th August 1837.

R. GRANT.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Governor,
15 Aug. 1837.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Dated 15th August 1837.

(Concurred in by the Board.)

1. The information forwarded in Colonel Ovens's letter of the 7th instant is most important, and highly creditable to that officer, who is entitled to the warmest commendations for the zeal and ability which he has displayed in obtaining it.
2. The Raja's proceedings, which, in the first instance, appeared so prodigiously absurd as to be scarcely credible, though they must still be considered idle and preposterous enough, have yet become comparatively clear and consistent. The evidence obtained by the Acting Resident proves that, for years previous to the detection of his attempt on the fidelity of our troops he was engaged in treasonable communications with the ex-Raja of Nagpore, who, he very naturally concluded, would be willing to take part in any design against the Government which deprived him of his dominions.
3. If the case still stood, in point of evidence, where it did when we recommended to the Government of India a moderate and middle course in the punishment of the Raja, I should have ventured to defend that advice, notwithstanding the dissent of the Government in question; and I firmly believe that the Home Authorities, had they been consulted, would have acceded to our opinion. Subject to the question, whether any, the least, attempt to seduce our Native troops from their loyalty ought not to be considered an unpardonable offence, our case against the Raja was not, at that time, a very strong one. The evidence, though satisfactory to us, was such as might be questioned without any obstinate incredulity. The offence, though great, might be regarded as the fruit of some casual and momentary aberration, aided, perhaps, by some mismanagement on the part of the British Government or its subjects.
4. At present the matter exhibits a greatly altered appearance. Such a mass of proof has been obtained, and there is every reason to expect still further additions to it, as must, I think, convince the most hardened unbeliever. And in what light does the offender appear? For years, during which he has been the petted child of the Company, the object of their constant indulgence, the theme of their ardent applause, and during which he has, in fact, maintained a semblance of the utmost cordiality with the British Authorities in contact with him, without even the pretext of a shadow of a grievance, he has been cherishing the most hostile feelings, and forming the most treasonous projects, against those who raised him from a prison to a throne.
5. It must be observed, that the communications of his Highness with Joudpore, even admitting the matter of them to have been innocent, were in direct breach of his engagements. By the 5th article of his treaty with us he is bound to have no connexion or correspondence with any foreign power, chief, or person, except through the British Government; and the article concludes thus:—"This article is a fundamental condition of the present agreement, and any departure from it on the Raja's part shall subject him to the loss of all the advantages he may gain by the said agreement."
6. But there can be no doubt that the objects of this intercourse, carried on, he it observed, clandestinely, and for years, were as treasonous as the intercourse itself was illicit. The very stipulation just quoted proves this, even were there no evidence of it. No man would systematically have broken so capital a part of the treaty without some object to justify the risk he incurred.
7. I would propose that a copy of the Acting Resident's letter of the 7th instant, and its accompaniments, be immediately sent to the Governor of Agra, with an expression of the strong belief of this Government that, by examining the

the ex-Raja of Nagpore, and the four persons named in the last paragraph of Lieutenant Colonel Ovans's despatch, further and important information may be obtained of the real nature of the designs which the Raja of Sattara has so madly meditated; and with an earnest request that such examination be instituted and pursued, and its result communicated to us, with all the dispatch compatible with the observance of the requisite caution and secrecy.

SATTARA
PAPERS.Minute
by the Governor
15 Aug. 1837

8. In communicating the substance of the first paragraph of this minute to Colonel Ovans, that officer should be requested to expedite the reports of any further information which he may be enabled to furnish. His efforts should be particularly exerted to ascertain whether any of the letters which are proved to have passed between Sattara and Joudpore are still in existence, and to gain possession of them if that be the case.

9. I think it very material that Colonel Ovans should obtain as much light as possible with regard to the degree of participation of the Raja's brother, Appa Sahib, and his cousin, the Senaputtee, in these improper transactions. Jadhoo deposes that Appa Sahib was one of those to whom his namesake, the ex-Raja of Nagpore, sent presents of shoes; and Yelojee says that the same person sent the Senaputtee a letter, but that the Senaputtee, offended at not being entitled *Sahib*, returned no answer. These are but equivocal indications, and I think it very desirable to know more.

10. I would next propose, that the whole of Colonel Ovans's despatches be forwarded to the Government of India. The communication should contain a short summary of the contents of each letter from that officer, and of the instructions issued on each in return.

11. Our sentiments on the whole case should be submitted to the Government of India, and their instructions be requested. At the same time, I would beg to intimate to them our opinion that no final decision should be come to until the examinations we have requested at Agra shall have been had, and their results reported.

12. I am further strongly of opinion, that before the case is conclusively disposed of the Raja should be made acquainted with the fresh evidence that has been elicited against him, and should be allowed the opportunity of offering defence or explanation. But on this head the instructions of the Supreme Government may be particularly solicited.

13. Highly approving of all Colonel Ovans's other suggestions, I think, in correction of that contained in his ninth paragraph, that for the present the man named Yelojee should be detained in custody, unless already released; and this with a view of a minute inquiry as to the letters mentioned in paragraph eight of the present minute.

14. I believe I have said in another minute, that our proceedings in this case, up to the latest possible date, should be reported to the Honourable Court by the packet which the *Berenice* is to carry to the Red Sea.

(Signed) R. GRANT,
J. KEANE,
J. FARISH.

15th August 1837.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Dated 24th August 1837.

(Subscribed to by the Board.)

1. I request the Secretary with me will transmit copy of the Chief Secretary's memorandum to the Acting Resident at Sattara.

2. I should wish to be informed whether Mr. Wathen has been able to ascertain the name of the Hubshee's agent, who is stated to have communicated with the Mangalore insurgents.

Minute
by the Governor,
24 Aug. 1837.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Governor,
24 Aug. 1837.

3. I think that part of the information should be sent to the Government of Madras, who may, perhaps, be able to obtain evidence regarding the depuration of the agent alluded to.

(Signed) R. GRANT,
J. KEANE,
J. FARISH.

24th August, 1837.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Dated 24th August 1837.

(Concurred in by the Board.)

I do not think we ought to countenance any plan for trepanning this Vakeel into our hands. The best way will be to request the Hubshee to deliver him up to us, to answer certain accusations of having been guilty of improper conduct against this Sircar. I propose this in the belief (which I cannot doubt to be correct) that the Vakeel is a British subject.

(Signed) R. GRANT,
J. KEANE,
J. FARISH.

24th August 1837.

MINUTE BY GOVERNMENT,

Dated 25th August 1837.

1. The evidence forwarded in this despatch is of a very important nature. Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans's proceedings may be entirely approved, and that officer should be requested to follow up the inquiries he has commenced regarding the intrigues which have been carried on between Sattara and Goa, and with the Hubshee.

2. Copy of this despatch and enclosures should be immediately sent to the Government of India.

3. I do not see any reason to doubt the truth of the Statements Nos. 1 and 2, regarding the manner in which the petition of the mother of Govind Row was written; but it is to be hoped that the Dewan himself will come forward and state all that he knows respecting the Raja's late proceedings.

4. Paragraphs 1, 2, and 4, of Statement No. 3, should be sent to Mr. Dunlop. Paragraph 3 of the same should be sent to Mr. Williams, with instructions to both officers to inquire into the facts therein stated, and to report the result to Government.

5. Colonel Ovans should ascertain and report more particularly what is meant by "the combination in Arbustan," alluded to in Statements Nos. 3 and 4.

6. With respect to the Goa intrigues, he should endeavour to ascertain whether, as stated by Wittul Row Sukheram Parusnees, they ever came to the knowledge of Colonel Robertson, the Resident, and if so, what notice was taken of them.

7. The Statement No. 4 is of considerable importance, as proving the extensive nature of the Raja's communications with foreign states. It also implicates the Senaputtee in the Raja's designs.

8: With reference to Statement No. 5, I shall be obliged to the Chief Secretary to furnish the Board with any information he may be able to obtain regarding the Governor of Goa, called Dominee, the Christian doctor, called Irkool, and the Judge of Goa, called Silva, who is stated to be familiar with this affair, and to be at present in Bombay. I presume that Dominee must have been the predecessor of Manuel Peres. for deponent observes, "Pere, a

Christian, came from Portugal ; in 1834 he became Governor." It should also, if possible, be ascertained, whether Dominee visited Vingorla, and whether he there took a passage, and afterwards disembarked in consequence of a quarrel with the captain of the ship.

9. The deponent states, "The papers and seals (entrusted to Nanna) are "with Balkoba at Sawunt Waree, in the house of Ladhoba Kaka Neyrookur." In reference to this, the Acting Resident should be directed to send a confidential person to Sawunt Waree, furnished with a letter to the Collector of Rutnagheery, in order that a search may be made for the seals and documents.

10. The Acting Resident should also be directed to search the books of the person named Tejeram, in order to verify the money transactions connected with the Goa intrigues alleged to have taken place with his firm.

11. Of the persons stated to have been privy to these intrigues enumerated in the thirteenth paragraph, Nos. 3 and 8 are stated to reside at Poona, and Nos. 5 and 6 at Waree. Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans will, of course, have applied to the Magistrates of Poona and Rutnagheery to endeavour to trace out and apprehend these persons.

12. Another person, No. 2, Raojee Kotnees, is stated to be residing in Bombay. I request Mr. Wathen will ascertain whether such is the case; and I think the Advocate-General should be consulted as to the mode in which this person can be apprehended and sent to Sattara for examination.

(Signed) R. GRANT,
J. KEANE,
J. FARISH.

25th August 1837.

P.S.—In communicating this despatch to the Government of India, the measures we have adopted on it should also be communicated.

(Signed) R. GRANT,
J. KEANE,
J. FARISH.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Dated 30th August 1839.

(Subscribed to by the Board.)

1. From the evidence forwarded with Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans's letter of the 23d instant, there are strong grounds for, at all events, suspecting that the Raja of Sattara entered into communications of a treasonable nature with the Hubshee, but it is by no means clear how far the latter chief entered into his views.

2. I think there are ample grounds for detaining Bulwunt Row Chitnavees, as suggested by the Acting Resident, and that measure may be accordingly sanctioned.

3. Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans's proceedings in conducting this branch of his inquiries may be approved, and he may be directed to obtain further evidence, if possible, of the nature of the Raja's intercourse with the Hubshee, which under any circumstances is a breach of his treaty with us.

4. I do not believe the statement of Bulwunt Row Chitnavees regarding the letter found concealed in the doll. It is not likely that the bearer of that letter would, of his own accord, have concealed the letter in the manner stated, unless his principal had given him directions to do so. The inference therefore is, that Bulwunt, fearing that the communications with the Hubshee would be detected, thought it prudent to point out to the Carkoon, Wambir Rao, the answer he should give, if required to explain, so that there might not be any discrepancy between their two stories.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Governor
25 Aug. 1837.

Minute
by the Governor
30 Aug. 1837.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Governor,
30 Aug. 1837.

5. The witness Yelojee Mohiteh positively states that the Raja received a letter through the Chitnavces from the Hubshee, and that having read it, he (the Raja) burnt it; and asserts, that it related to some treasonable projects. The witness Wittul Row Parusnecs also deposes to a treasonable design having been entered into with the Hubshee, and that he saw himself *parhaths* (cloths) and a sword sent to the Raja from the Hubshee. He further states, that he heard from the Chitnavces that a "combination has been arranged" with Arbusthan through the Hubshee." The witness Khassee Severam Bundrey corroborates these facts. It is worthy of remark that this witness states, that the interview between the Raja and the Hubshee's agent took place in the Deoghur-room, set apart for idols; and the Chitnavces admits in his examinations that he introduced the agent, on one occasion, to the Raja in the room in question. "I took him, being my relation, I took him once; "I took him to the Deoghur."

6. A copy of the enclosed should be sent to the Government of India.

R. GRANT,
J. KEANE,
J. FARIS.

30th August 1837.

Minute
by the Governor,
1 Sept. 1837.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Dated 1st September 1837.

(Subscribed to by the Board.)

Mr. Hutt's proceedings may be approved. The confession of Govind Row, as far as it goes, is important; but he has apparently reserved the disclosures which it is in his power to make until he has an interview with Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans.

2. I have no doubt that the Acting Resident possesses advantages beyond any other officer for conducting his examination and eliciting the truth; and, ultimately, it may be deemed advisable to send Govind Row to Sattara for this purpose.

3. In some respects, however, I conceive it is desirable that a preliminary examination on some of the leading points elicited by the inquiries at Sattara should be conducted by an officer quite unconnected with those inquiries.

4. I would therefore propose that Mr. Hutt should be directed to put the following questions to Govind Row, after having informed him that his only chance of being leniently dealt with by Government is freely to disclose every thing he knows respecting the Raja's proceedings. These queries are framed from memory, as I have not the papers to refer to.

INTERROGATIONS.

1. You have admitted that you took the two Soobadars to the palace and introduced them to the Raja; state particularly and in detail the object of that interview, and the nature of the conversation which took place on the occasion between his Highness the Raja and the Native officers.

2. State in what room the interview occurred, and who was present on the occasion, and whether the Soobadars were in their usual dress or in disguise.

3. Are you aware of communications having passed between the Raja and Appa Sahib, the ex-Raja of Nagpore; if so, by whom were such communications made, and what was their nature and object?

4. Are you aware that a sword, concealed in a musical instrument (vena), was sent from Sattara to Appa Sahib, and that presents in return were sent to the Raja and other persons residing at Sattara?

5. Where any letters sent to Appa Sahib from Sattara, or did Appa Sahib

write any letters to the Raja or to any other person at Sattara; if so, what was their purport?

6. Are you aware of any intercourse having taken place between the Raja and the Hubshee, or Chief of Jungeera; if so, what was its nature and object, and were any presents at any time interchanged between the parties?

7. Are you aware of certain communications having taken place between the Raja and the Authorities of Goa; if so, by whom were they conducted, and what was their nature and object?

8. Are you aware of communications having occurred between the Raja and certain Chiefs in the Southern Mahratta [country]; if so, by whose agency were they conducted, and what was the nature and object of such communications?

9. Can you state whether the Raja has maintained an intercourse with any other foreign States or Chiefs besides those above-mentioned; and if so, of what kind?

10. Where you ever employed to draft letters, on the Raja's behalf, of a hostile nature towards the British Government?

11. Have you any such letters, or the replies to them, in your possession, or can you state whether any of them are still in existence?

12. Can you state what induced the Raja to meditate hostilities against the British Government, and who were his principal advisers and agents?

13. Can you furnish any further information respecting the extent and nature of the Raja's designs against the British Government, or of the measures he adopted preliminary to carrying them into effect?

14. Was the Raja's brother or the Senaputtee privy to these designs?

5. Mr. Hutt should be informed that this communication is of the most confidential nature, and that he must take every precaution to preserve secrecy. Some of Govind Row's answers to the above questions may suggest others, which may also be put to him. This must be left to the Judge's discretion, he being told that Government desire that the examination should be as searching as possible. Mr. Hutt should be requested to give an English version of the result?

Poona,
1st September 1837.

(Signed) R. GRANT,
J. KEANE,
J. FARISH.

MINUTE BY MR. JAMES FARISH,

Dated 4th September 1837.

Minute by
Mr. James Farish
4 Sept. 1837.

It is evidently necessary that the important examination of Govind Row should be conducted solely by the examining officer in person, who must himself write down, or require Govind Row to write down, his answers; and besides being most confidential, the examination is to be as searching as possible. For this purpose, what may be considered a fair knowledge of Mahratta, sufficient for the ordinary transaction of business, might not be such as to require a satisfactory result from this most important, because the first, examination of Govind Row, under specific instructions.

The Acting Session Judge may be fully competent to the execution of this; but if the Right Honourable the Governor is not fully satisfied of his being so in every respect, I would venture to suggest that it is an occasion on which a special officer might be deputed to Ahmednuggur, and rather than any risk of failure should be incurred, ought to be sent.

There might be less indelicacy in deputing an officer already in the Political line, and Captain Outram, now at Poona, might appear to the Right Honourable the Governor a suitable agent; but if the measure be thought desirable, no difficulty will be found in the deputation of a proper agent from Poona.

SATTARA
PAPERS.Minute by
Mr. James Farish,
4 Sept. 1837.

In order, therefore, that no delay may occur, I would suggest, that if his Excellency the Commander-in-Chief approves, the letter be drafted according to the minute dated Poona, 1st September, but sent under flying seal with this minute to the Secretary with the Right Honourable the Governor, requesting that, if any modification of the course should, in consequence, appear desirable, the Governor will have the goodness to give the necessary orders direct, through the Secretary in attendance on him.

(Signed) J. FARISH.

4th September 1837.

Minute
by the Governor,
4 Sept. 1837.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Dated 4th September 1837.

(Subscribed to by the Board.)

An Order in Council, addressed to the Senior Magistrate of Police, should immediately be issued for the apprehension of Raojee Kotenees; and, on this being effected, he should be conveyed at once to Panwell.

The boat to convey him thither, with a suitable guard, should be prepared beforehand, in order that no delay may be experienced.

From Panwell the prisoner should be forwarded to Sattara, and delivered over to the Acting Resident, letters being previously addressed to the Magistrates at Tanna and Poona.

On the seizure of this person a search should be made for papers, the Advocate-General being first consulted how far this may be done legally, as the house belongs to another person.

The Chief Secretary will also be pleased to consult the Advocate-General as to the terms in which the Order in Council should be drawn up.

(Signed) R. GRANT.

4th September 1837.

Minute
by the Governor,
5 Sept. 1837.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Dated 5th September 1837.

(Subscribed to by the Board.)

1. I think the request should still be made to the Hubshee. How the case is to be dealt with hereafter will depend on circumstances.

2. What the Secretary states is only an additional reason for not proceeding by deception.

(Signed) R. GRANT,
J. KEANE,
J. FARISH.

5th September 1837.

Minute
by the Governor,
5 Sept. 1837.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Dated 5th September 1837.

(Subscribed to by the Board.)

Finding from Mr. Willoughby, who examined Govind Row at Sattara, that this person converses fluently in Hindoostanee, I feel no doubt of Mr. Hutt's perfectly understanding him; but I think he should be directed to take the depositions in Mahratta also, having with him a Carkoon sworn to secrecy in whom he has full confidence.

I can hear of no European who is qualified for the task Mr. Farish contemplates.

Captain Outram certainly is not so; besides which, he has proceeded to Aurungabad.

(Signed) R. GRANT,
J. KEANE,
J. FARISH.

5th September 1837.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Govern-
5 Sept. 1837

MINUTE BY GOVERNMENT,

Dated 7th September 1837.

Minute
by Governmen
7 Sept. 1837.

1. The Board is much indebted to the Chief Secretary for the important information contained in his memorandum of the 5th instant.

2. As I shall return to the Presidency on Saturday, the 9th instant, I shall delay offering an opinion on the measures which should be pursued towards the Portuguese authorities at Goa and Demaun until I have had an opportunity of conferring with my Colleagues. In fact, I do not conceive that we have as yet obtained sufficient evidence to render a communication with them expedient.

3. It appears to me desirable that Mr. Wathen should record the source from which the information respecting Raojee Kotences has been obtained, or at all events inform the Board confidentially of the same; but every precaution will, of course, be taken to preserve secrecy.

4. I think that part of the information relating to Raojee's mission to the Peerur Chief of Soorapoor should be immediately sent to the Resident at Hyderabad, with the request of this Government that he will institute an inquiry on the subject, in such manner as he may deem most expedient.

5. That part relating to his communications with the late Swamee Sunkur Acharya of Sunkeshwur should be sent to Mr. Dunlop, with similar instructions; and that gentleman may be informed that recent inquiries have tended to impress Government with the belief that treasonable communications have taken place between his Highness the Raja of Sattara and some of the Chiefs of the Southern Mahratta country, to detect which Government rely on his best exertions. His attention should be particularly drawn towards the Jumkhunderkur.

6. Copy of the whole of Mr. Wathen's memorandum should be sent to the Acting Resident at Sattara for information. The Secretary in attendance on me will do this.

7. The last paragraph should be immediately sent to the Madras Government, with reference to the communication suggested in the third paragraph of my minute of the 24th ultimo. Copy of our letters should be confidentially communicated to Mr. Lewin, the Magistrate in Canara, in order that the inquiry may be immediately commenced.

(Signed) R. GRANT,
J. KEANE,
J. FARISH.

Poona,
7th September 1837.

MINUTE BY MR. J. FARISH,

(Without Date).

The proceedings of the Chief Secretary approved, and the papers to be forwarded to Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens, as suggested.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

MINUTE BY THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF.

*(Without Date).*Minute by the
Commander-in-
Chief,
(without date).

The Chief Secretary's proceedings may be highly approved of.

I conclude Mr. Wathen will be able to inform the Governor of the contents of these papers from memory, otherwise, I should say, it might be as well to delay dispatching them to Colonel Ovans till to-morrow evening, as the Governor is expected here to day, and they would reach Sattara quite as soon as the prisoner, who went off yesterday.

Minute
by the Governor,
7 Sept. 1837.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

*Dated 7th September 1837.**(Subscribed to by His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief.)*

1. Mr. Spooner appears to have acted with vigour and judgment, and his proceedings should be entirely approved.

2. The Authorities at Warree appear also to have acted in a commendable manner, and Mr. Spooner should signify to them the approval of Government.

3. The Mahalkurree of Vingorla, who first obtained information of the assemblage of the body of armed men at Pallee, deserves great credit, and Mr. Spooner may be authorized, if he sees no objection, to confer on this person a small pecuniary reward.

4. I have no doubt that Major-General Salter will, on the receipt of this information, have taken measures to reinforce the post at Vingorla. The Superintendent of the Indian Navy should be directed to send a vessel for the treasure as soon as the season permits.

5. Mr. Spooner should be requested to endeavour to trace out the person named Gopal Seedjee Redkur, alluded to in the fifth paragraph of his report, and examine him as to the source of his information regarding the Pallee gang.

6. He should keep the five persons seized in the Warree State, and who have confessed having been concerned, more or less, in the intended attack on Vingorla, in strict custody, when they are forwarded to him by the Warree Authorities.

7. He should be further directed to use his best exertions, both directly and through the Warree Authorities, to apprehend all persons known or suspected of belonging to the Pallee gang. More especially his attention should be directed towards securing the persons of Bahoo Ghatga, Bawao Sing Purdasee, and Balcoba Yotia. If able to ascertain the place of residence of these persons, he should cause a strict search to be made for papers.

8. Mr. Spooner should be advised, generally, that Government has reason to believe that the meditated attack on Vingorla is connected with other proceedings of a treasonable nature against us, and that Government attach great importance to the inquiry entrusted to him. He should be requested to correspond on this subject in the Secret Department, and to adopt any precaution to prevent such information as he may be able to obtain from becoming public, employing, with this view, only such persons on whose honesty and integrity he can repose full confidence.

9. He may be requested, generally, to ascertain whether any, and what, connection exists between the Pallee gang and any persons residing in the Goa territory.

10. I conceive that the depositions of the five persons seized at Warree corroborate, in the most remarkable manner, the truth of the information we have lately received from the Acting Resident at Sattara, regarding the mission of Nana Vyed to Goa; for, if I recollect right, certain seals and documents, which the son of that person stated his father received from the Raja of Sattara, were alleged to be deposited in the house of Balcoba Yotia, who is named by the deponents as one of the chief persons concerned in raising the Pallee gang.

Minute
by the Governr.
7 Sept. 1837

11. I therefore request the Secretary with me will forward, with as little delay as possible, copy of Mr. Spooner's report and enclosures to Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans for his information, and, at the same time, request him to report immediately what measures he adopted, grounded on the information obtained from Nana Vyed's son, with the view of apprehending Balcoba Yotia.

12. The Acting Resident may be further informed, that Mr. Spooner has been directed to institute a minute inquiry into the transactions alluded to in his report; and that, if he is of opinion his own inquiries will thereby be facilitated, he should open a communication with that gentleman.

(Signed) R. GRANT.

Poona,
7th September 1837.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Dated 11th September 1837.

(Subscribed to by the Board.)

Mr. Willoughby has just delivered to me five packets of papers, endorsed, in the handwriting of Mr. Wathen, with the words *Raojee Kotenees*; and also, in that of Mr. Willoughby, with short notices, signed by that officer, of the hours on which they were received this day, the 11th of September. These are evidently the papers referred to in Mr. Wathen's memorandum of the 8th instant.

The seals of four of these packets are unbroken. That of the fifth, indorsed "*Raojee Kotenees,—Papers, &c. &c.*," is broken, and is stated by Mr. Willoughby to have been in its present state when delivered to him. This packet I have myself sealed with my own seal, without disturbing its contents; the other seals I have not broken.

I now deliver these five packets personally to Mr. Willoughby, and request that he will have the goodness to forward them in their present state to Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans, together with a copy of the memorandum of Mr. Wathen already mentioned, and that he will, at the same time, request Colonel Ovans so to keep these papers, as to afford a proof of their continued custody, with a view to their being identified whenever this may be required.

Colonel Ovans should further be requested to examine these documents, and report on them without delay, furnishing Government with translations of such of them as appear to relate to the transactions now under inquiry at Sattara.

I conclude, as a matter of course, that the principal Collector of Poona, to whose custody Raojee has been committed, will be careful to prevent any person from communicating with the prisoner until he is delivered over to the custody of Colonel Ovans at Sattara. By way of caution, however, Mr. Willoughby may as well give Mr. Mills an intimation to that effect.

Government are obliged to the Chief Secretary for his successful management of the apprehension of this person. Captain Shortt's exertions in executing the service should be approved.

The whole of these proceedings should be reported to the Government of India.

(Signed) R. GRANT.

11th September 1837

**SATTARA
PAPERS.**

Minute
by the Governor,
14 Sept. 1837.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Dated 14th September 1838.

(Concurred in by the Board.)

I expected, in consequence of what I heard privately, that an excuse would be made for not delivering up this person.

The Chief Secretary's information brings home the untruth of the excuse to the Hubshee.

I think the minute of the 5th of September should be acted upon. The Chief Secretary will be good enough to draft a letter from me to the Hubshee, requesting him to send the person required to the Collector at Tanna; and should the request be complied with, the Collector will send a respectable officer, on whom he can perfectly depend, to accompany the person to Poona, where he will be delivered up to Mr. Mills, who should be instructed to forward him, in the company of a confidential officer, to Colonel Ovens, at Sattara.

(Signed) R. GRANT,
J. KEANE,
J. FARISH.

14th September 1837.

Minute
by the Governor,
15 Sept. 1837.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Dated 15th September 1837.

(Subscribed to by the Board.)

In reference to the Chief Secretary's eighth paragraph, I would observe that I never saw what he describes as the outer covers of the packets in question, but Mr. Willoughby told me they were all sealed and firm.

No further explanation seems necessary.

(Signed) R. GRANT.

15th September 1837.

Minute
by the Governor,
18 Sept. 1837.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Dated 18th September 1837.

(Subscribed to by the Board.)

Orders to be issued accordingly through the Military Department, care being taken to order the relief merely as a matter of course, and not so as to excite alarm or attention.

(Signed) R. GRANT,
J. KEANE,
J. FARISH.

18th September 1837.

Minute
by the Governor
20 Sept. 1837.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

20th September 1837.

1. The letter from the Government of India of the 7th ultimo undoubtedly places this Government in an embarrassing position.

2. The meaning of the second paragraph does not seem to me quite clear. It may mean absolutely that the Governor General in Council doubts whether the Raja of Sattara ought not to be permitted to avail himself of the aid of

European gentlemen in preparing his defence, or the doubt may be confined to the single point whether the denial of this privilege to the Raja can be rested on the fifth article of the Treaty of Sattara.

**SATTARA
PAPERS.**

Minute
by the Govern
20 Sept. 188

3. I am afraid, however, that the paragraph is to be understood in the former sense; and whether it is or not, the actual application of Dr. Milne to us to be allowed to proceed to Sattara obliges us to determine whether the privilege is to be conceded to the Raja or not. I have no hesitation in giving my opinion in the negative.

4. It is certainly, under the circumstances, an embarrassing question to decide. The Supreme Government, in the letter to Dr. Milne, of which they have favoured us with a copy, inform him that they will receive from him any representation on Sattara affairs, provided it be sent through the channel of the Bombay Government. This must mean, if it means anything to the purpose, that Dr Milne may transmit such representations as the spokesman or advocate of the Raja; and that gentleman may, I think, fairly argue, that the permission to do this includes that of access to his client, for the purpose of preparing the representation to be transmitted. Yet, in the fourth paragraph of the letter to us, it is, I think, by plain implication left to this Government to debar Dr. Milne from any intercourse with the Raja. In other words, we may debar the advocate from any intercourse with his client.

5. Although it is neither my duty nor in my power to reconcile these apparently opposing permissions, I have no doubt that we ought to act on the permission given to ourselves. As at present advised, nothing short of the most decisive and imperative order will induce me to recommend it to this Government to comply with Dr. Milne's application. It is not in our power, I believe, to prevent all communication between the Sattara Court and Europeans in Bombay; but I will never willingly authorize such communication, still less when such Europeans and servants are pensioners of our own, and least of all where they have already stood forth as furious partizans of the ruler of Sattara against the British Government.

6. I am not called upon, nor perhaps have the right, to discuss the general question, whether, in the political disputes between the Government of British India and the Chiefs and Princes dependent on them, disputes, often involving the nicest state questions and the gravest political consequences, it is expedient to encourage such Chiefs and Princes to employ the hired advocacy of British subjects living under our Government, and even supported by our pay. But, were the liberty allowed me, I would, in terms of the greatest respect, yet of the greatest earnestness, implore the Government of India well to weigh the nature and magnitude of the consequences involved in such a concession before the precedent is established.

7. Once open the door, and there cannot be a doubt that, of the numerous Chiefs and Princes alluded to, there is not one who will not sooner [or later] be provided with his British agents, attorneys, and advisers, men drawn from among those factious, discontented, mischief-making persons, who are to be found in every large community; men who will thenceforward be intimately mixed up in all the most delicate and important discussions between the British Government and their employers; men whose interest it will be to foment the disputes on which they feed, and who probably will often be glad to avenge real or fancied wrongs of their own under the cloak of their representative character. Every one of these agents will quickly, and almost instinctively, form, what in the instance of Dr. Milne is formed beforehand, a close connexion with the radical press of the Presidencies; and in what manner that alliance will be brought to bear on the question at issue any person may easily satisfy himself, who will take the trouble of glancing over the inflammatory philippics respecting Sattara affairs with which the *Bombay Gazette* has been enlightening its readers during the last few months.

8. I admit that, in some degree, we are even now exposed to these evils. The proceedings of Dr. Milne and the *Gazette* prove that we are. The peculiar position of Dr. Milne, indeed, facilitated his interference in the Sattara

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Governor,
20 Sept. 1837.

case, but I deny not that future Dr. Milnes will never be wanting where they are required. The efforts of this gentleman, however, and of his coadjutor, the *Gazette*, mischievous as their tendency has been, have been much embarrassed by their imperfect acquaintance with the transactions which they attempted to influence, and by the presumed necessity of concealment. When that necessity no longer exists, and agitators are set free to take an active part in such discussions, their power of effective and injurious misrepresentation will be proportionably increased; and to what extent the hazards incident to our dominion in India will consequently be multiplied it is beyond my ability to calculate.

9. Without reference, however, to the more general considerations on which I have touched, I cannot conceive that the part which Dr. Milne has already acted in the Sattara affairs, at all strengthens his claim to the agency of which he is desirous. The libellous character of his letter to the Government of India of the 19th July ought alone, I should think, to be deemed a conclusive objection against his being employed in that capacity. Most imperfectly acquainted with our acts, and profoundly ignorant of our motives and intentions, he has yet presumed to state to the Government of India, that the "Dewan of the Raja was seized and exposed to every indignity, in the hope of extorting a confession of the traitorous attempt ascribed to him." His whole statement, indeed, is a tissue of calumnious misrepresentations, given, be it observed, not as the Raja's story, but as his own.

10. With respect to the caution which, in the concluding paragraph of Mr. Secretary Macnaghten's letter to Dr. Milne, is bestowed on that gentleman, I must with deference say, that it appears to me hardly consistent with the permission of agency implicitly conceded to him in the first paragraph; but, at all events, the caution comes too late. The writer of the letter to which Mr. Macnaghten's was replying, might possibly not be an agent of the Sattara Raja, but his determined and devoted partizanship transpires in every line.

11. Before I quit this topic, I cannot but express my surprise and concern that the Government of India should have thought fit to answer Dr. Milne's letter without reference to this Government. Its libellous character would alone, I should have thought, have suggested this course of procedure, even if the Supreme Government did not deem it expedient to learn our opinion of the application before they committed themselves to a compliance.

12. On the contents of Dr. Milne's letter I will, in the sequel, offer another remark or two, but I now pass to other topics. I entirely subscribe to the opinion offered at the conclusion of Mr. Macnaghten's fourth paragraph. The Raja has already been told to the effect suggested; but I think the intimation should now be repeated in a letter from myself, the opportunity being taken of replying to a letter which he addressed to me about the time when Colonel Ovens was sent to Sattara.

13. I think also that Colonel Ovens should be instructed to prepare a complete statement of the case which has been established against the Raja, in order that, when his inquiries are concluded, it may be furnished to his Highness for any such explanation or answer as he may choose to offer. If the Raja denies the statements, he should be confronted with the witnesses; but, in this case, the Acting Resident must adopt the most effective measures for their protection.

14. With reference to the sixth paragraph of the letter from the Government of India, they should be informed that we have grounds for believing that the inquiries now in progress at Sattara will soon be concluded, but that it is impossible for us to state with certainty the exact period of their termination. A copy of their letter, with its enclosures, should immediately be sent to the Acting Resident, not only that he may become aware of the wish of the Government of India, but also that he may submit any remarks which may occur to him on Dr. Milne's representation to that authority.

15. In referring the Government of India to our recent despatches, forwarding copies of Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens's various communications, we may state our conviction that they will have satisfied the Supreme Government that the period which these inquiries have occupied has not been ill-bestowed.

SATTARA
PAPERS.
Minute
by the Governor
20 Sept. 1837

16. In the first instance, the Raja's designs appeared almost incredible, from the inadequacy of the means which had apparently been resorted to for carrying them into effect. The conspiracy has now, however, been developed, and has assumed a systematic, connected, and credible form. It has been traced to Joudpore, to Goa, to the Nizam's country, to the Southern Jagheerdars, to the Seedhee Chief of Jinjeerah, and through him to Arbusthan or Arabia; for it appears to have been part of the Raja's plan to obtain through the Hubshee a body of Arabs from the latter country. It is true that some of these plots require further elucidation; but I think there can be little doubt that the Raja has maintained a traitorous intercourse of some kind, either directly or indirectly, with all the places above-mentioned; and when the proper period arrives for publicly disclosing the accumulated proofs of his guilt, they will now be sufficiently strong to satisfy the most sceptical mind. With respect to the Raja's intrigues with Goa, it is to be observed, that we must not judge of his conduct by what we ourselves know of the ability, or otherwise, on the part of the Government to fulfil the promises on which his Highness relied. This part of the plot has been most wonderfully corroborated by mere accident at Rutnagherry; and if his Highness's ignorance and credulity misled him to believe that the Portuguese Authorities could furnish him fifty battalions, his having embarked in the insane projects of which he is accused is rendered the more probable and worthy of belief.

16 A. I shall conclude with the few remarks which I have already promised on Dr. Milne's letter to the Government of India. In the first place, it alludes to a previous letter of the 8th May, and I think we should request to be furnished with a copy of that communication.

17. In the second place, I am told and believe Dr. Milne's communication of the 19th ultimo goes far to identify the writer, by internal evidence, with the author of several libellous letters which have appeared in the *Bombay Gazette*. I am myself a rare reader of newspapers; but I should be much obliged if the Political Secretary would take the trouble to collect some of the notices of Sattara affairs which have appeared in the paper just mentioned, with a view to establish the identity of the two libellers.

18. On Dr. Milne's account of the mode in which I noticed his application to proceed to Sattara, I will offer to the Board a supplemental minute. I do not believe Dr. Milne's to be an accurate account of what passed; but the chief misrepresentation consists in this, that he states as my *definitive* answer to his application that which was avowedly not such, and omits to mention that the only answer, properly so called, which he received, was a distinct and unqualified negative.

(Signed) R. GRANT.

20th September 1837.

SUPPLEMENTAL MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Dated 20th September 1837.

Supplemental
Minute
by the Governor
20 Sept. 1837.

At a public breakfast at Parell, Mr. Macdonald, the editor of the *Bombay Gazette*, appeared, and after breakfast, coming up to me after I had spoken with several other gentlemen, said that he had been deputed by Dr. Milne, who had been prevented from coming himself, to inform me that they (Dr. Milne and Mr. Macdonald) were proceeding, I think on some speculation of a commercial or agricultural kind, into the Southern Mahratta country, and were desirous of being allowed to visit the Raja of Sattara, who had expressed his wish to be aided by Dr. Milne in preparing some sort of defence of his conduct.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Supplemental
Minute
by the Governor,
20 Sept., 1837.

In answer, while I spoke civilly of Dr. Milne and his intentions (for I then thought far more favourably of both than I now do), I decidedly declined answering the application at the moment, but promised that I would send Dr. Milne an answer.

I also recollect saying that the Sattara discussions, whatever might be their nature, being of a political kind, and carried on under the directions of the Supreme Government, that Government might object to such a proposition, even if we consented : or something to that effect.

I have no recollection of having said that advantage might be derived from Dr. Milne going to Sattara. My belief is that I did not say so without qualification, if I said it at all; but the material point is this : that whatever I said was carefully guarded by the notice already mentioned, that I spoke only off hand, and would send an answer after consideration.

Accordingly, a day or two afterwards, my private Secretary called on Dr. Milne, and in my name told him, without reserve or qualification, that he would not be permitted to see the Raja.

(Signed) R. GRANT.

20th September 1837.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Dated 20th September 1837.

(Concurred in by the Honourable Board.)

I conceive we ought immediately to apply to the Goa Government direct to give up the persons herein mentioned, naming them.

Mr. Spooner should be requested to examine further the men already apprehended by the Warce Authorities, as to what power or chiefs was or were intended by them, when they stated that the Sirdars above the Ghauts intended to rise against the British Government.

(Signed) R. GRANT.

20th September 1837.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Dated 22d September 1837.

The proceedings reported in Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens's despatch of the 6th instant, may, I think, be approved.

2. There can be no doubt that sufficient evidence has been elicited against Bulwunt Row Chitnavees, to justify our acceding to the suggestion that he be removed to Poona, and there detained a state prisoner till further orders. The reasons of expediency, also, for this measure, stated in Colonel Ovens's eighth paragraph, are extremely strong. I cannot, however, conceal from myself the responsibility which must attach to such a proceeding, and have felt a good deal of hesitation as to the propriety of adopting it.

3. The encouragement which the Government of India have thought proper to give to the Milne and Macdonald party, to set up as the advocates of the Raja, has already produced a most injurious effect on Colonel Ovens's proceedings. The Raja and his friends are in high spirits, and the progress of disclosure is proportionally checked; the difficulties, therefore, of an inquiry, which already was difficult enough, are much enhanced. The able and indefatigable officer who is charged with the conduct of it has coped pretty successfully with the dark intrigues of a Mahratta Court; but if he is also to be opposed by the special pleading and bold misrepresentation of lawyers and philanthropists from Bombay, I fear that he will find himself "hardly matched."

4. I was

4. I was, therefore, in the first instance, greatly disposed to advise a formal suspension of the inquiry till we could prevail on the Supreme Government to rectify what, speaking with all deference, I must consider as the mistaken step which they have adopted; or, as our alternative in the event of their refusing to retract that step, to terminate the inquiry, and to leave them to dispose of the case on the evidence already recorded.

Minute
by the Govern
22 Sept. 1837.

5. On further consideration, however, I have come to the conclusion, that such a course would neither be just to ourselves, nor to the Acting Resident, nor to the cause committed to us. Pending the reference which we should make to the Supreme Government, the partisans of the Raja, animated to tenfold hope and exertion by the very circumstance of our apparent dejection and discomfiture, would put in force all the means of intrigue and corruption to nullify our past exertions. Not only would further disclosures be prevented, but perhaps even those already made might be retracted, and much of what has already been done be thrown away.

6. On these grounds, I cannot hesitate to recommend to the Board what may appear a bolder, but what, in fact, is a far safer course of policy. We have no cause to believe that any of our past proceedings have been disapproved by the Supreme Government. In their letter of the 7th August, on which I entered a minute yesterday, I admit that they speak in the language of doubt, or even objection, in reference to the length to which the inquiry had extended; but at that time they had heard nothing as to its nature or as to the transactions which it has brought to light. Assuming, therefore, which we have a right to do, that our proceedings hitherto have been correct, I conceive that it is our duty to go steadily forward. In other words, the Chitnavees should be disposed of as Colonel Ovans recommends.

7. If the Board agree with me, the Acting Resident should be instructed accordingly. The mode of procedure should be conformable to that which was pursued in the case of the Dewan.

8. The measure which Colonel Ovans adopted against Dinkut Rao Mohitey, as reported in his ninth paragraph, may be approved; and those which, in the two following paragraphs, he meditates against Babajec Puraskur and Chintoo Punt Bluttee should, I think, be sanctioned.

9. The question as to Balla Sahib Senaputtee, which Colonel Ovans discusses in his twelfth and four following paragraphs, is, in my opinion, far more doubtful. He is the near relation of the Raja, and supposing the Raja and the Raja's brother set aside, the proper representative of the family. The demand for him would probably be resisted; and, in that case, by preferring it, we should bring on a crisis which, at the present moment of all others, should if possible be postponed. Besides this, from the situation of the Senaputtee, and the probable consequences to him of the inquiry, he may be considered as one of the principal subjects of it, and I therefore feel extremely doubtful whether he ought to be examined as a witness.

10. I propose, therefore, to inform Colonel Ovans that, for the reasons above-mentioned, we deem it expedient that the measures which he proposes to adopt regarding the Senaputtee should, for the present at least, be delayed.

11. The evidence of Dajeeba Jossee (No. 1) is of considerable importance, because, from his situation as Dufurdar, he must have had good opportunity of knowing the intrigues, to the existence of which he bears witness. His idea of the motives on which the Raja's treacherous and treasonable conduct originated exactly agrees with that of the Dewan, as well as with what I have heard from various other sources, and is, I doubt not, perfectly correct. Captain Grant Duff, when relating the accession of the Raja, observes that the society shewed little gratitude for the favour bestowed on them, and [I] firmly believe that, from the very first, the Raja, inflated by the notion of his illustrious connection as giving him a right to the sceptre of the whole Mahratta empire, has thought himself rather degraded than honoured by being endowed with a limited territory and placed on a vassal throne.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Governor,
22 Sept. 1837.

12. Colonel Ovans's Statements 2 and 3, may, I think, be sent to the Resident at Hyderabad, though the information contained in them is not very distinct.

13. Copies of this communication from Colonel Ovans, and of our reply to it, should be forwarded to the Government of India. I should also be apt to propose, that notice of them be added to the summary which we are about to send home by the *Atalanta*; but this, I fear, is impracticable, her departure taking place so immediately.

(Signed) R. GRANT,
J. KEANE.

22d September 1837.

MINUTE BY MR. JAMES FARISH,

Dated 22d September 1837.

I think the course proposed in the sixth paragraph of this minute the best that can be followed, and I entirely concur in the measures proposed by the Right Honourable the Governor.

(Signed) J. FARISH.

22d September 1837.

MINUTE BY THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF.

Dated 22d September 1837.

Minute by
the Commander-in-
Chief,
22 Sept. 1837.

I cannot find words sufficiently strong to express my cordial concurrence in the sentiments here recorded by the Right Honourable the Governor, and my belief that the permission sought by Dr. Milne (whose character is well known to us) to confer personally with the Raja of Sattara, and to become his advocate in making representations to the Supreme Government, if acquiesced in, would be attended with the most pernicious effect, not only in the instance under consideration, but as an example to other Native Princes, it being clear that the information would spread from one Native Court to another, and all kinds of constructions would be put upon it. Dr. Milne would, as a matter of course, be assisted by the person with whom he has formed so close an alliance, namely, Mr. Macdonald, the Editor of the *Bombay Gazette*, an individual brought up as a Writer (so called in his native country, Scotland), signifying, what in England is termed, Attorney.

I have myself already received, in a private manner, strong and undoubted proof that the answer which has been addressed to Dr. Milne by order of the Supreme Government, and which he lost no time in communicating to the Raja of Sattara, has had an extraordinary effect in paralyzing the efforts of the Acting Resident to carry on the investigation in which he is engaged, and which he was probably near bringing to a conclusion.

Under every view of the case, I think we are bound to refuse our consent to Dr. Milne's having personal intercourse with the Raja of Sattara until our sentiments are known to the Supreme Government.

(Signed) JOHN KEANE.

22d September 1837.

MINUTE BY MR. JAMES FARISH,

Dated 22d September 1837.

I trust the light in which the proposed advocacy of Dr. Milne is placed by the forcible and clear exposure in the Right Honourable Governor's minute, of its immediate consequences, and of the inevitable prospective tendency of such influence, if spread extensively, as it eventually must be, on our political connexions, will induce the Government of India to approve of the refusal to permit Dr. Milne to proceed to Sattara.

I entirely concur in the views and measures proposed in the Governor's minute of the 20th instant.

(Signed) J. FARISH.

22d September 1837.

SATTARA PAPERS.

Minute by
Mr. James Far
22 Sept. 1837

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Dated 30th September 1837.

(Subscribed to by Mr. James Farish.)

I think the Chief Secretary should be requested to communicate confidentially the information contained in this letter to Major Wilson, the officer commanding the 23d Regiment of Native Infantry, and to instruct that officer to endeavour quietly to ascertain whether any attempts have been made to bribe the Native officers to retract their evidence.

I am of opinion that the Native officers should neither seek nor avoid overtures of the kind alluded to by the Acting Resident; but, if made, they will, I cannot doubt, after ascertaining the nature of the offers, reveal them to Major Wilson.

One thing is quite certain, the large remittance made from Sattara to Bombay has not been made for any good purpose.

(Signed) R. GRANT,
J. FARISH.

P.S.—The Chief Secretary will be good enough to see what can be made of the Persian fac-simile.

(Signed) R. GRANT,
J. FARISH.

20th September 1837.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Dated 30th September 1837.

(Subscribed to by Mr. James Farish.)

I request the Secretary with me will forward copy of this letter to Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens, and request that officer to issue such instructions to Mr. Spooner, on the subject of Balcoba Yotia, as he may deem expedient.

He will also acknowledge the receipt of Mr. Spooner's letter, and direct him to act agreeably to the Acting Resident's instructions.

(Signed) R. GRANT,
J. FARISH.

30th September 1837.

Minute
by the Governor,
30 Sept. 1837.

SATTARA
PAPERS.Minute by
Mr. James Farish.

MINUTE BY MR. JAMES FARISH.

(Concurred in by His Excellency Sir J. Keane.)

I quite concur in the above.

(Signed) J. FARISH,
J. KEANE.Minute
by the Governor,
2 Oct. 1837.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Dated 2d October 1837.

The apprehension of Balcoba Yotia is very satisfactory.

The conduct of Ballasam Chuprassee appears suspicious, and requires explanation.

Copy of the letter should be sent to the Acting Resident, with the above remark.

Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans should be requested to issue such instructions to Mr. Spooner, relative to the disposal of the prisoner, as he may think fit, and Mr. Spooner be directed to attend to the same.

Mr. Spooner should also be directed to send to Government Balcoba's examination regarding the Pallee gang.

I request Mr. Willoughby will be good enough to act on this minute.

(Signed) R. GRANT.

2d October 1837.

Minute by
Mr. James Farish,
3 Oct. 1837.

MINUTE BY MR. JAMES FARISH,

Dated 3d October 1837.

The Sattara affair appears, I venture to submit, to have now been as completely developed as it is likely to be, and that every day's delay is now giving opportunity to practise on the evidence which Government have obtained; would it not, therefore, be desirable to instruct Colonel Ovans to prepare, with the least delay practicable, a complete report on the whole of the evidence; in short, to frame a case, supported by the evidence on which the decision of the Government of India may be passed, after learning the defence the Raja may make to the statement of facts which will be submitted to him.

(Signed) J. FARISH.

3d October 1837.

Minute
by the Governor,
5 Oct. 1837.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Dated 4th October 1837.

(Subscribed to by Mr. James Farish.)

1. Colonel Ovans's letter and enclosures of the 27th ultimo should be immediately transmitted to the Government of India: it strongly corroborates the views we have already submitted to that authority, regarding the inexpediency of permitting Dr. Milne to act as the Raja's advocate.

2. In the third paragraph the Acting Resident most completely refutes one of Dr. Milne's assumptions, namely, that Colonel Lodwick was impressed with the conviction of the Raja's innocence. Much more might be said on this subject; but I shall purposely abstain from prolonging a controversy on a point which, I regret to state, admits of no doubt.

3. The

3. The explanation regarding the person, named Bhon Seleh, alluded to in Dr. Milne's communication to the Government of India, appears to me to be quite satisfactory. This man volunteered to put Lieutenant Durrack in possession of treasonable documents, and the proceedings of that officer, in consequence, were, in my opinion, altogether unexceptionable.

4. The particular attention of the Government of India should be requested to the sixth and following paragraphs of Colonel Ovans's letter; they should also be especially referred to the documents marked Nos. 2 and 3, accompanying the despatch.

5. It appears that, on the 25th June, Dr. Milne wrote as follows to Juggonath Sunkerseth, Esq.: "You will be rejoiced to learn, and I am happy to inform you, that the orders from Bengal, in regard to the Raja of Sattara's concerns, have been most perfect; for not only, as you know, was the Resident ordered to be immediately removed, but the Minister also liberated without inquiry, and that the Raja should be requested to state whatever wishes he had, and all grievances of which he had to complain. This is acting like a British Government."

6. The letter from which the above is extracted was immediately sent to Sattara. There is not one particle of truth in what it contains; and from this specimen of Dr. Milne's veracity, or at least of his accuracy, the Government of India will be able to decide what weight can be given to any representations received from the same quarter.

7. The letter from the Raja's agent in Bombay, named Rungoba, is also, I conceive, deserving of the attention of the Authorities at Calcutta.

4th October 1837.

(Signed) R. GRANT,
J. FARISH.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Governor
4 Oct. 1837.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Dated 4th October 1837.

I request the Secretary with me will forward copy of Dr. Milne's letter and enclosures to Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans, and the originals to Calcutta.

4th October 1837.

(Signed) R. GRANT.

Minute
by the Governor
4 Oct. 1837.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Dated 4th October 1837.

(Subscribed to by Mr. James Farish.)

Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans has already been desired to bring his inquiries to a termination with all practicable expedition. I happen to know, also, that he is preparing a general report.

The call, therefore, suggested by Mr. Farish, which is otherwise very proper, had better, perhaps, be suspended till the inquiry is actually completed.

4th October 1837.

(Signed) R. GRANT,
J. FARISH.

Minute
by the Governor
4 Oct. 1837.

**SATTARA
PAPERS.**

Minute
by the Governor,
9 Oct. 1837.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Dated 9th October 1837.

(Subscribed to by Mr. James Farish.)

This memorandum contains some useful information, and I request the Chief Secretary will endeavour to obtain further intelligence regarding Syud Meer's proceedings.

This account of him should be communicated to the Secret Committee.

9th October 1837.

(Signed) R. GRANT,
J. FARISH.

Minute
by the Governor,
(without date).

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Without Date.

(Subscribed to by Mr. James Farish.)

As some of the papers connected with this subject have been sent to the Government of India, those that have not yet been sent should also be forwarded to complete the series.

(Signed) R. GRANT,
J. FARISH.

Minute
by the Governor,
12 Oct. 1837.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Dated 12th October 1837.

(Subscribed to by Mr. James Farish.)

1. I believe instructions have already been issued that Moropunt Josee should be sent to Sattara.

2. The documents with this letter appear of great consequence.

3. I request that literal translations of them may be immediately made and returned with this letter.

4. I will then request the Secretary with me to forward copies to Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans and the Government of India.

12th October 1837.

(Signed) R. GRANT,
J. FARISH.

Minute
by the Governor,
17 Oct. 1837.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Dated 17th October 1837.

I request Mr. Willoughby will now act on the last paragraph of my minute of the 12th instant.

17th October 1837.

(Signed) R. GRANT.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

*Dated 17th October 1837.*SATTARA
PAPERS.Minute
by the Governor
17 Oct. 1837.

1. I request the Secretary in attendance will forward copy of this communication to the Government of India, with reference to the letter from Dr. Milne on which it comments.

2. It should be observed, that Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens has refuted, in a most satisfactory manner, the aspersions which Dr. Milne has presumed to cast on the 23d Regiment of Native Infantry, one of the finest and best behaved corps of the army of this Presidency.

3. The Government of India will not fail to observe, that the document on which Dr. Milne relies, as supporting his charge against the 23d Regiment, was merely a notice given to the Sattara Government not to give the regiment credit in the town of Sattara, to avoid disputes, in conformity with a custom prevailing in all military bazars.

4. In addition to what is stated in the sixth paragraph regarding the witness Kooshra, the Government of India may be referred to the Commission's proceedings for information regarding the very peculiar circumstances under which this man's evidence was obtained. He did not come forward voluntarily, but having accidentally accompanied his master when he proceeded to the Residency, he was recognized by the Soobadars as having been present during their interview with the Dewan, and was thus constrained to confess the fact.

5. I concur in the Acting Resident's remarks in the seventh and eighth paragraphs, and must again repeat my conviction that it is highly inexpedient to permit a man in Dr. Milne's situation to interfere in a case of this kind.

(Signed) R. GRANT.

17th October 1837.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

*Dated 17th October 1837.*Minute
by the Governor,
17 Oct. 1837.

I request the Secretary in attendance will send copies of this letter and enclosures to Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens, and then forward the original to the Government of India. Dr. Milne is very much mistaken if he thinks he can shake the case against the Raja by depositions like those submitted in this and his former communications.

(Signed) R. GRANT.

17th October 1837.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

*Without Date.*Minute
by the Governor,
(without date.)

(Subscribed to by Mr. James Farish.)

Copy of this letter and enclosure should be sent to the Government of India, in reference to Dr. Milne's letter of the 12th ultimo, already forwarded to that authority.

(Signed) R. GRANT,
J. FARISH.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Governor,
19 Oct. 1837.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Dated 19th October 1837.

(Subscribed to by Mr. James Farish.)

■ I think the Chief Secretary may spare himself the trouble of trying to make out the fac-simile, as I believe it would be thrown away.

In consequence of the, to me surprising, letter from the Government of India, dated the 2d instant, on Sattara affairs, I think we had better suspend sending any further papers connected with those affairs to that Government, till we can consider a little the position in which we are placed by the letter in question.

This does not apply to letters which ought to have been sent before, and were omitted by accident.

19th October 1837.

(Signed) R. GRANT,
J. FARISH.

Minute
by the Governor,
19 Oct. 1837.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Dated 19th October 1837.

(Subscribed to by Mr. James Farish.)

A copy of this letter should immediately (*and if it possibly can by this day's post*) be sent to the Acting Resident at Sattara for his remarks. The best answer would, perhaps, be a digest of, and report on the whole of the evidence which Colonel Ovans has taken on the Sattara case; but this must be left to his own judgment.

I think the above suggested communication for Colonel Ovans had better be sent *open*, through Mr. Willoughby, for that officer's information on matters to which he has paid very great attention. It will lose no time by going to him, and he may, if he pleases, forward it to Colonel Ovans by express.

19th October 1837.

(Signed) R. GRANT,
J. FARISH.

Minute
by the Governor,
28 Oct. 1837.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Dated 28th October 1837.

I request the Secretary in attendance will transmit copy of this letter to the Government of India.

28th October 1837.

(Signed) R. GRANT.

Minute
by the Governor,
30 Oct. 1837.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Dated 30th October 1837.

I request the Secretary in attendance will forward copy of Dr. Milne's letter and enclosures to Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans, and inform that officer that, as it relates to, and animadverts on his proceedings at Sattara, it will not be forwarded until Government receive such observations and explanations as he may have to offer.

30th October 1837.

(Signed) R. GRANT.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Dated 30th October 1837.

(Subscribed to by Mr. James Farish.)

SATTARA
PAPERS.Minute
by the Governor
30 Oct. 1837.

1. I have perused, with equal surprise and regret, the letter from the Government of India dated the 2d instant; for I conceive that, if the course suggested in the concluding paragraph be pursued, the credit of the British Government will be seriously impaired.

2. I think that letter should now be simply acknowledged, and the Government of India informed that we deemed it expedient to communicate their sentiments to the Acting Resident at Sattara. Copy of our letter to Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans, and of that officer's reply of the 23d instant, should, at the same time, be submitted for the information of the Governor-General of India in Council.

3. In reference to the latter communication, the Government of India should be earnestly intreated to suspend their judgment on the Sattara case, until the reports therein alluded to are received, the Acting Resident's investigation having, according to his report, been nearly brought to a conclusion.

4. The Government of India should be further informed, that, in submitting these reports, we propose to communicate our sentiments on the case generally as it now stands, and such observations as occur to us on their letter of the 2d instant.

(Signed) R. GRANT,
J. FARISH.

30th October 1837.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

*Dated 7th November 1837.*Minute
by the Governor
7 Nov. 1837.

I think copy of this letter should be immediately sent to the Acting Resident at Sattara, with orders to act, as far as practicable, in conformity with the wishes of the Government of India; namely, to bring inquiries already commenced to an early conclusion, and to abstain from further inquiries of a collateral nature.

On this letter I reserve to myself the liberty of future remark.

(Signed) R. GRANT,
J. FARISH.

7th November 1837.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

*Dated 24th November 1837.*Minute
by the Governor
24 Nov. 1837.

(Subscribed to by Mr. James Farish.)

This letter, and the one from Dr. Milne to which it is a reply, and in my mind a most satisfactory one, should be forwarded to the Government of India.

Although we have given a strong opinion against Dr. Milne being permitted to interfere in this matter, I think we ought to request the attentive consideration of the Government of India to the just and forcible remarks of the Acting Resident on the same subject, and to the misstatements contained in Dr. Milne's communications.

(Signed) R. GRANT,
J. FARISH.

24th November 1837.

SATTARA
PAPERS.Minute
by the Governor,
(without date).

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Without Date.

(Subscribed to by Mr. James Farish.)

Dr. Milne's letter, and this plain and manly reply from Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans, should now be forwarded to the Government of India.

Dr. Milne's various letters should be simply acknowledged.

(Signed) R. GRANT,
J. FARISH.

Minute
by the Governor,
9 Dec. 1837.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Dated 9th December 1837.

(Subscribed to by Mr. James Farish.)

1. The information contained in Mr. Dunlop's letter of the 29th ultimo, and the documents accompanying it, will be found to corroborate, in a very remarkable manner, the evidence forwarded with a report received from the Acting Resident at Sattara on the intrigues of the Raja of Sattara with the Authorities at Goa, which is now under my consideration, and which I shall shortly submit to the Board, with such observations as occur to me.

2. Copy of this communication should be immediately sent to Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans for any remarks he may wish to offer; and when that officer's report is forwarded to the Government of India, Mr. Dunlop's should accompany it.

3. Mr. Dunlop should be requested to inform Shunkershwur Shunteen Bhartee, that the intrigues of his predecessor have been detected, and that the only way in which he can expect to avert the penalties of such conduct is, by affording Government every information in his power, and by furnishing us with all the documents in his possession, or within his reach, calculated to throw light on these proceedings.

4. In particular, Mr. Dunlop should be informed that Government deem it of great importance to obtain easy possession of the "original *thylec* from the Raja of Sattara to the address of a Portuguese who is said to have left the country before it was delivered." It may aid Mr. Dunlop's inquiries if he is informed that the Raja's correspondence is believed to have been carried on with Don Manoel de Portugal e Castro, Viceroy of Goa, and that the doctor he alludes to as having been one of the agents on the occasion, though called *Irkool*, was one *Herculano*.

5. Mr. Dunlop may be further informed that Government expect to derive information of importance on this subject from the zeal and intelligence of Ram Row Akhbarnavees.

6. I cannot quite excuse Chintamun Row's conduct, as reported in the seventh paragraph, for it is clearly his duty to have communicated to the Political Agent the reports which had reached him regarding Swamee's proceedings. I trust he will now make up for this neglect by aiding Government in developing the truth. I think considerable light may be thrown on these transactions by our obtaining copies of Chintamun Row's letter to the Swamee and to the Raja, alluded to in the seventh paragraph of Mr. Dunlop's letter. He should be informed accordingly, and the Political Agent should be requested to confer with the Chief in person, in preference to resorting to any intermediate agency.

7. The Political Agent should finally be informed, that Government await with some anxiety the result of his further inquiries, and, as previously directed,

directed, request that he will not avail himself of the conditional leave granted to him to visit Bombay until his inquiries have been fully completed.

8. The native documents should be sent to Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans in original (copies being retained here), as he may very probably be able to ascertain who wrote them.

(Signed) R. GRANT.

9th December 1837.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Governor,
9 Dec. 1837.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Dated 2d February 1838.

(Subscribed to by Mr. James Farish.)

Minute
by the Governor,
2 Feb. 1838.

1. The documents accompanying Mr. Dunlop's letter of the 15th instant strongly corroborate Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans's report, respecting the Raja of Sattara's communications with Goa.

2. I shall hereafter have occasion to offer some observations on this communication, in connexion with the report alluded to; and, in the mean time, I have only to propose, that copy of it, and of Mr. Dunlop's letter of the 6th, should be sent to Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans, and the Native documents in original, for any remarks he may have to offer, and in the expectation that the Native documents may be identified by some of the persons at Sattara engaged in these proceedings.

3. The orders of the Government of India are, I think, a bar to our instituting the inquiries which the documents obtained by Mr. Dunlop naturally suggest; but that gentleman's proceedings may be entirely approved, and he may be instructed to use every exertion to obtain possession of the other documents alluded to in his letter, but more especially the alleged treaty between Don Manoel and the Raja of Sattara.

4. I shall hereafter notice the important fact of the formal inquiry at Sattara, and the contingent one at Dharwar, each being conducted by officers quite independent of each other, producing similar results, implicating the same persons, and eliciting similar facts. Is it therefore possible that concert or collusion can exist? and can the most sceptical refuse to believe that the Raja of Sattara really did conceive the mad project of forming a treasonable alliance with the Goa Government? But I am anticipating a minute which I have under preparation on Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans's report on the same subject.

(Signed) R. GRANT.

2d February 1838.

MINUTE BY MR. JAMES FARISH,

Dated 3d February 1838.

Minute by
Mr. James Farish,
3 Feb. 1838.

I entirely concur in the course proposed by the Right Honourable the Governor.

(Signed) J. FARISH.

3d February 1838.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Without Date.

(Subscribed to by the Board.)

Minute
by the Governor,
(without date).

Copy of this may be sent to Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans.

A diamond ring is particularly alluded to by several of the witnesses in the Goa case. I think the depositions should at once be called for, as they may throw further light on the subject; and Mr. Dunlop may be informed that, although it is admitted the Swamee was concerned in these intrigues, it is of importance to ascertain in what manner, and to what extent, he was so implicated.

(Signed) R. GRANT.

Minute
by the Governor,
10 March 1838.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Dated 10th March 1838.

(Subscribed to by Mr. James Farish.)

Copy of this letter and the enclosures in original, with a request that they may be returned, should be sent to the Acting Resident at Sattara; with a further request that he will offer any remarks which may occur to him on the documents obtained by Mr. Dunlop, with as little delay as possible.

I hope very shortly to be able to submit to the Board my sentiments, founded on the information obtained by Messrs. Ovans and Dunlop, regarding the intrigues at Sattara.

(Signed) R. GRANT.

10th March 1838.

Minute
by the Governor,
10 March 1838.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Dated 10th March 1838.

(Concurred in by Mr. James Farish.)

1. Copy of this letter with the enclosures in original may be sent to Colonel Ovans for his remarks, with a request that the latter may be returned.

2. The two documents purporting to be from Don Manoel, are evidently not original. They appear to be Mahratta translations of letters, but written in the Portuguese character.

3. The substance of No. 2, I am informed, is that the Viceroy had received the Raja of Sattara's letter of the 9th, and perceiving that the Maharaj was in the enjoyment of good health, the news had given him great pleasure. It is dated 25th January 1831.

4. The substance of the paper No. 3 is, that the Viceroy had received Swamy Bharty's letter sent by Nago Deorao, as well as the verbal message sent by him, and the Viceroy promises to write to the Bharty, as occasion may require. It is dated 13th August 1833.

The Acting Resident at Sattara may probably obtain some information respecting them from Raojee Kotenees; but the documents are, at all events, of some value, as clearly proving the existence of an intrigue with Goa some years back.

6. Mr. Dunlop may have the leave applied for, provided he is of opinion that it is not likely, by remaining, he will be able to obtain further documentary

tary evidence in elucidation of the subject of this letter; and he may be reminded, that the treaty alleged to have been entered into between the Raja of Sattara and the Viceroy of Goa has not yet been obtained.

(Signed) R. GRANT.

10th March 1838.

SATTARA PAPERS.

Minute
by the Governor,
10 March 1838.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Dated 23d March 1838.

(Subscribed to by the Board.)

There can, I think, be no doubt that it is our bounden duty to afford full and efficient protection to the persons herein alluded to, and the mode suggested by the Acting Resident in his fourth paragraph seems as little objectionable as any that could be adopted.

I see no objection, either, to a moderate sum being allotted as subsistence to the witness Abba Parusnees, pending the termination of our proceedings at Sattara.

I hope to be able, in a very few days, to submit my sentiments on the Goa case, which is exceedingly strong against the Raja.

(Signed) R. GRANT.

23d March 1838.

Minute
by the Governor,
23 March 1838.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Without Date.

(Subscribed to by the Board.)

The removal of these persons to Mahowlee is a good arrangement, as it would, under existing circumstances, be difficult to afford them efficient protection.

I think copy of this correspondence should be sent to the Governor General, to shew the attempts made to injure the witnesses who have come forward against the Raja.

His Lordship may, at the same time, be informed that a considerable portion of the remainder of the Sattara case is in the hands of the copyist, and will be forwarded without delay.

(Signed) R. GRANT.

Minute
by the Governor,
(without date.)

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

.(Concurred in by Mr. James Farish)

Mr. Spooner's proceedings may be approved.

(Signed) R. GRANT.

Minute
by the Governor.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Dated 28th March 1838.

(Subscribed to by the Board.)

1. I would propose that the prisoners, No. 6, 7, and 8, alluded to in Mr. Spooner's report, be committed for trial, for having conspired together, with
other

Minute
by the Governor,
28 March 1838.

**SATTARA
PAPERS.**

Minute
by the Governor,
28 March 1838.

other persons, to attack the British factory at Vingorla, and to plunder the treasure belonging to the Company there in deposit.

2. Any other British subject known or suspected of having joined in this combination, and similarly circumstanced with Nos. 6, 7, and 8, should, in like manner, be committed for trial.

3. No. 5, although a British subject, was not apprehended in our territory, but was seized and made over to us by the Chieftain of Waree. Mr. Spooner, referring to Regulation XI. of 1827. Section 4, is of opinion that he is not amenable to our Courts, but I cannot agree with him. If the law now looks for this person, it will find him within the Bombay territory, and this I conceive to be sufficient.

4. The above persons should be tried before the Session Judge of Tanna, on his approaching circuit, who may be requested to forward the proceedings on the trial to Government, and the Magistrate may be directed, in case the prisoners (as I think very likely) are acquitted, not to enlarge them without substantial security being exacted from them.

5. The subjects of the Waree State charged with being concerned in the design to attack Vingorla Factory may be detained at Rutnagheery, until we are informed of the result of the trial of our own subjects.

(Signed) R. GRANT.

28th March 1838.

Minute
by the Governor,
5 May 1838.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR.

Dated 5th May 1838.

1. I now proceed to lay before my Colleagues my sentiments, in detail, on Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens's report of 11th November, with its copious enclosures, and on his supplementary letters, dated as per margin,* in explanation and elucidation of that report.

2. I regret the delay that has occurred in the execution of this duty, but cannot impute it to myself as matter of blame. The Political Secretary having undertaken to methodize the voluminous evidence adduced, and to prepare separate summaries of the several portions of it applicable to all the material facts of the case, I thought it important to await the completion of those summaries, or at least of the greater part of them, before I should submit my sentiments to the Board. That work Mr. Willoughby has, by dint of indefatigable exertion, at length achieved, and the summaries, *twelve* in number, which I can venture to say are not more clear than they are accurate, accompany the present minute.

3. I should do much less than justice, however, to Mr. Willoughby, if I represented the preparation of these summaries as the only service which he has rendered me on this occasion. On every part of the case I have found his aid invaluable, not only in pointing to the information immediately relevant, but in imparting his own conclusions and opinions. While I am happy, however, to pay to the Secretary this tribute, I am bound to add, that even from him I have taken nothing on trust. I have studied the whole case for myself, and that which I am about to offer to the Board is my own independent judgment of its merits.

4. It would, indeed, ill become me in the discharge of the serious duty to which I am called, to assert any fact which I had not carefully verified, to deliver any opinion which I had not first well weighed and considered. Of all the questions, judicial or political, with which my present office has brought me in contact, I hold the question respecting the guilt or innocence of

* 5th, 6th, 13th, 15th, and 20th February 1838.

of the Raja of Sattara to be decidedly the most important. The magnitude of the interests which it involves, and the extent, and in some sense complexity, of the evidence on which the adjudication of it must hinge, would alone give it a consequence greatly above the ordinary level of our proceedings; but this effect is enhanced by the turn which the discussion has taken, and the very peculiar position into which it has brought the Bombay Government.

SATTAR
PAPERSMinute
by the Gover
5 May 1834

5. I need not say that, in the earlier stages of the present investigation, our proceedings had the good fortune to meet with the entire approval of the Government of India. All the information, however, which we could then collect was derived from but a few sources, and was comparatively scanty, and the Government of India expressed a wish for further information. We exerted ourselves to meet that wish; and in entering on a more extended field of inquiry, we were acting, as we conceived, immediately by the directions of that Government, and securely counted on their sanction and countenance. The various clues to discovery, therefore, which the first inquiry suggested, were followed out with diligence, and a vast mass of new evidence has been elicited; but no great progress had been made in this work, when the Supreme Government was pleased to disapprove of the course we were pursuing, and to call on us to terminate it at the earliest possible moment. To close our proceedings abruptly would have been fatal to the reputation, not only of this Government, but, as I conscientiously believe, of the British power in general, for wisdom, firmness, and justice. The responsibility, however, of going forward, even to a limited extent, was heavy and painful. It is astonishing how quickly the opinion gained ground at Sattara, that the Bombay Authorities, in the active measures in which they still persisted, were seriously compromising their credit with the higher Authorities to whom they were accountable. Animated by this belief, the parties, whose interests the inquiry threatened to affect adversely, made every attempt to thwart or elude it; and, rich and unscrupulous, they had in no small degree the means of accomplishing their object. The public press of Bombay meanwhile rung with necessarily contradicted declarations against our cruel, oppressive, and inquisitorial conduct. To attacks like these no powers of language that I possess can adequately represent my profound indifference, so long as I both know them to be unjust, and feel myself sufficiently supported to be enabled to proceed with a firm step in that path which the public interests prescribe. But, unhappily, these invectives, which, in fact, emanated from well known intriguers at Sattara, reacted on the impression at that place, and aggravated the difficulties of the inquiry in which we were engaged. Thus situated ourselves, we yet felt it our duty to give no cold or vacillating support to the able and zealous officer immediately charged with those inquiries. Through good and evil report we have persevered; have taken it on ourselves to protract, to the latest moment, that cessation of operations which had been enjoined; and though, even yet, some lines of inquiry remain unpursued, have at length acquired a sufficient body of facts, to settle, as I believe, the question at issue.

6. Under these circumstances, however, it cannot be denied, that the character of the Bombay Government is almost as deeply committed on the event of the present discussions as that of the ruler of Sattara. We owe it to ourselves to shew, that we have not acted lightly, or harshly, or credulously; that, from first to last, we have had no object but the discovery of truth, and have taken no measures but such as that object justified; that there were good and rational grounds for the several inquiries instituted, and that those inquiries have uniformly been prosecuted with judgment, with prudence, with all practicable dispatch, and with the utmost consideration for the feelings and interests of individuals, which could be made to consist with a supreme regard to the ends of justice.

7. By what I have just observed, I must not be understood to say, that I deem it essential to the credit of this Government to prove that the Raja of Sattara is guilty. All that I mean is this, that, whether he be guilty or not, we must prove that his acts have not been subjected to a minuter or severer scrutiny than the interests of truth and of the British Government fully war-

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Governor,
5 May 1838.

ranted and positively required. That we are strong at least to this extent, I have no hesitation in affirming; and when this is made out, the vindication of the Bombay Authorities will, as I conceive, be complete.

8. I cannot, however, stop here. I am bound to say that, in my opinion, the criminality of the Raja is but too well proved. I thought so, even on the evidence reported to us by the Commissioners in 1836; but the copious additions that have since been made to that evidence, bring home to his Highness a greatly aggravated degree of delinquency. It appears that his character has been entirely mistaken, both by the local and the Home Authorities. We esteemed him a grateful, attached, and obedient friend, content with the limited but respectable dignity to which he had been elevated, and anxious only for the improvement of the compact and valuable territory placed under his charge. It now turns out, that he has for years been the secret, but determined foe of his acknowledged patrons, eagerly desirous of comprising within his possession all the extensive dominions once governed by his ancestors, and actively engaged in the most frantic projects for realizing the dreams of his guilty ambition.

9. In advancing to a more particular examination of that part of his treacherous proceedings which is now to be considered, I will only further premise that, though nearly last in the order of discovery, it was first in that of events. In truth, his endeavour to corrupt the fidelity of our Native troops was only the out-break of the plot, the overt result of a long course of secret machinations, of which we are now to trace the origin and gradual progress.

10. There is ample reason to believe, and I shall hereafter adduce the evidence for the statement, that even from the first moment of his being seated on the *gadi* of Sattara, the feelings of the Raja and his family were rather those of extreme elation and vanity than of content or thankfulness. There is no evidence, however, of his having formed any scheme of the sort now under consideration till about six years afterwards. The first person, as far as appears, who suggested to him such a design, was the Swamee of Sunkeshi-wur, a sort of sacred chief or priest in the Southern Mahratta country, and a person of great wealth, influence, and intrigue. By the instigation of this individual, the Raja was led to aim at forming a connexion with the Portuguese at Goa, the only foreign European power within his reach, with the ultimate object of enlarging his dominions and establishing his independence.

11. As any communication on the part of the Raja with any foreign power was in direct violation of the Treaty of the 20th September 1819, and, even without reference to his ulterior designs, subjected him, by the terms of that treaty, to a forfeiture of the sovereignty which had been bestowed on him, it may be proper here to quote the specific article of the treaty which relates to this subject.

12. "ARTICLE V.—The Raja, for himself, and for his successors, engages to "forbear from all intercourse with foreign powers, and with all Sirdars, Jagheer-dars, Chiefs, and Ministers, and all persons of whatever description, who are not "by the above articles rendered subject to his Highness's authority. With all "the above persons his Highness, for himself and for his heirs and successors, "engages to have no connexion or correspondence. Any affairs that may "arise with them relating to his Highness are to be exclusively conducted by "the British Government. If, for the purpose of forming matrimonial con-nexions for his Highness's family, or for any similar purpose, his Highness "has occasion to communicate with persons not rendered subject to his autho-rity by this agreement, such communication is to be made entirely through "the Political Agent.

13. "This article is a fundamental condition of the present agreement, and "any departure from it on the Raja's part, shall subject him to the loss of "all the advantages he may gain by the said agreement."

14. It may conduce to a clear apprehension of the case, if I give a brief outline of the proceedings of the Raja in this matter, before I proceed to detail

detail the leading facts of the evidence by which they seem to me to be established.

SATTARA
PAPERS

Minute
by the Governor
5 May 1835

15. The Swamee already mentioned appears not only to have formed the project of a political intrigue with Goa, but even to have taken some steps towards carrying it into execution, so far, at least, as related to the acquirement of information, before it was imparted to the Raja of Sattara. Some time in the early part of the year 1825, or possibly sooner, he deputed two emissaries to the Goa district, one of whom saw a medical officer attached to the Portuguese army or government, who is named in the proceedings, "Irkool" or "Erculan," but whose real name is Herculano de Nova. It is stated by a witness* intimately acquainted with these proceedings from a very early date, though not till a few months after the time of the mission just mentioned, that the emissaries reported to the Swamee on their return, that the Goa Authorities were not indisposed to the design, but wanted funds; and this led to the communication with the Raja of Sattara.

16. It was arranged that the Swamee should visit the Raja; and the visit took place shortly before the Raja set out to attend the Singhurst at Nassick, a Hindu ceremony of great celebrity, which takes place only every twelfth year. The last celebration occurred only in 1837, and the preceding occasion, to which the narrative refers, of course in 1825. What passed at the conference between the Swamee and the Raja can only be collected from the sequel; except that it abundantly appears that the Swamee recommended, as the chief agent to be employed in the proposed intrigue, a person named Nago Deorao, who seems to have been already known to the Raja, though better to the Swamee, and who had, in fact, been one of the two emissaries already deputed by the latter to the Goa country.

17. Some delay seems to have taken place in acting on the design. The different movements of Nago, for two or three years after the period already mentioned, are described by persons who were then in his service, and it does not appear, whatever may have been the reason, that he again visited Goa till after the arrival of "Don Manoel de Portugal e Castro," as Viceroy at that place. This personage assumed the government of Goa on the 11th October 1827, and resigned it in February 1835, though he did not finally quit India till March 1836. Shortly after his accession, but I am unable to fix the exact date, Nago, through the medium of one Raojee Kotenees, a resident of the village of Araba in the Goa territory, and of Erculan or Herculano before mentioned, was introduced to the new Viceroy's confidential steward, and by the joint aid of these three persons he finally obtained admission to the presence of the Viceroy himself, and personally explained the object of the Raja of Sattara.

18. I will hereafter observe on the views which may have influenced the Portuguese Authorities in this affair, but, in the meantime, the question is, as to the positive evidence before us; and judging from that, I feel no doubt of the fact, improbable as it may appear, that the overtures of Nago were very favourably received. Complete confidence, however, was not established between the parties until about June 1831, when the aforesaid Herculano and Raojee Kotenees proceeded to Sattara, held a clandestine interview at night with the Raja, and received an honourable reception, and assurances that the proposals made by Nago Deorao did in reality emanate from his Highness. On this occasion a letter from the Viceroy to the Raja was delivered and read, and handsome presents were given, not only to the Portuguese emissaries, but to the Sattara agents.

19. About the same time the Raja assigned specific salaries to Nago Deorao and the rest of the agents, and the communications between Goa and Sattara became constant and frequent. A considerable disbursement of money took place, the funds being indirectly received from the Raja, and expended, on account of the intrigues, by a banker of Sattara named Teejeeram. The

books

* Balcoba's Deposition, paras. 1 and 2.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Governor,
5 May 1838.

books of this person have been obtained, and from these it appears, that the disbursements were larger in 1835 than at any former period. In the course of the intrigue, Nago Deorao had various meetings with the Raja of Sattara and Don Manoel; the Raja had also various meetings with Raojee Kotenees, and with the other agents employed. Correspondence and letters passed between the Raja and the Governor of Goa. On one occasion a supply of money was received direct from the Senaputtee, an officer not only high in the Raja's confidence, but his near relation.

20. Don Manoel having ceased to be Governor of Goa, but not having as yet taken his departure for Europe, Mahdeo Row Sirkey was deputed by the Raja of Sattara to pay the ex-Viceroy a visit. So far as any particular reason is required or can be traced out for the appointment of a new representative of the Raja at this late period, it is pretty plain that his Highness, or his Sattara advisers, had begun to feel some doubt whether the statements of Nago were quite to be trusted, and selected a person totally independent of Nago's party, in order to test their truth. But, without reference to this explanation, the delegation of a new envoy, to convey to the ex-Governor the parting presents and compliments of the Raja, and that envoy (as it is said), a relation of his Highness, could not but be considered a peculiar mark of respect. Nago accompanied the Sirkey on this visit, which took place in September or October 1835. Before the end of that year Nago repaired to Sattara, where he obtained from the Raja a sum of 8,000 rupees, chiefly with a view to defray the expenses of sending to Europe with Don Manoel an agent on behalf of his Highness. With 4,000 rupees out of this sum in hoondees, and with clothes purchased with a part of the remainder, Nago was hasting back to Goa, when all the hoondees, and clothes to the value of near 1,000 rupees, were carried off by robbers. A delay took place in procuring fresh hoondees; and to this circumstance we may perhaps ascribe it, that the design of dispatching an agent with Don Manoel was defeated. Certain it is, that Nago never again saw the ex-Viceroy, who embarked for Europe, as I have said, in March. Goa now ceased to be the scene of the intrigue, which soon afterwards suffered a considerable loss by the death of Nago. He expired on the 30th July 1836, at Warree, whither he had come to take measures for the recovery of the clothes of which he had been plundered. On his deathbed, Nago delivered over certain seals and papers to his brother-in-law, Balcoba Kelkur, and dictated and verified, by adding a character or two in his own handwriting, a letter to the Raja of Sattara, recommending to his Highness's protection his family and dependents.

21. The death of Nago, however, did not terminate the intrigue. About that very time, the attempts to seduce the officers of the 23d Regiment were in a course of progress, and the Raja immediately afterwards especially directed Raojee Kotenees and another agent to take measures for dispatching Erculan, or some other person on his behalf, to Portugal. For the fulfilment of this order, Raojee and Narrain repaired, in September 1836, to Bombay, and from thence corresponded with Erculan, who was at Damaun. They were not aware that, by this time, the plot had been detected at Sattara; and the discovery, though partial at first, has since swelled out into the voluminous mass of matter to which I am now calling the attention of the Board.

22. The above outline will be found to accord, in material points, with Lieutenant-Colonel Ohaus's report of the 11th November last. The evidence by which it is supported consists of two parts, the first oral, the second documentary; on each of which I will now observe, at that length which the importance of the case demands.

23. My remarks on the oral evidence may be conveniently divided into the four following heads:—

24. Firstly, A list of the persons who, either by their own confession, or by good evidence, are proved to have been either implicated in, or privy to, the Goa intrigues; with a brief history of each individual, including in material

material instances the part which they respectively took in those intrigues, and with regard to such of them as have been examined, the evidence given by themselves. On this head I would remark, that I have not entirely confined myself to the Acting Resident's report of the 11th November last, or to the evidence connected with it, but have occasionally availed myself of information to be found in former reports and proceedings on the Sattara case generally.

SATTARA
PAPERS
—
Minute
by the Govern
5 May 1830

25. Secondly, I will call attention to the evidence by which all the material facts and circumstances which compose the case are proved. For this purpose I have deemed it proper to avail myself of the twelve summaries prepared by Mr. Willoughby, to which I have already referred. I beg to repeat, that my own impressions of the case have been derived from a perusal, not of these summaries, but of the original evidence itself. To say the truth, I prepared for myself abstracts of the testimony of the most important witnesses; but Mr. Willoughby's summaries present a careful, methodized, and digested view of all the material facts as they stand in evidence, and will furnish by far the best text for the comments which I am about to offer. Speaking comparatively of these summaries with Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens's arrangements of the evidence, I should say that the latter is good in one respect, but bad in another. It at once shews the mode and order in which the evidence was obtained, and the consequent improbability of concert or collusion among the witnesses, but it wants condensation; and repeated perusals and much consideration are required before we can prudently pronounce that any particular fact is fully proved. The summaries of Mr. Willoughby seem precisely intended to supply this defect. Each is confined to one subject only. They are principally founded on the evidence marked A 1. to A 28. of the report of the 11th November, with here and there additional evidence collected from other sources, which are indicated,

26. Thirdly, I will shew that the evidence of most of the witnesses named under the first head is entitled to credit, not only from the impossibility of concert and collusion among them, and the absence of any adequate motive for the conspiracy which must have been entered into if it be false, but also because in many instances their testimony is contrary to the interests and presumable wishes of the witnessing parties.

27. Fourthly and lastly, I will consider how far the testimonies of the witnesses, both individually and collectively considered, carry with them the appearance of truth and honesty.

28. The following is a list of persons who, either by their own acknowledgment or by good and sufficient evidence, are proved to have been implicated in, or privy to, the intercourse carried on by his Highness the Raja of Sattara with the Authorities at Goa.

- 1st. Nago Deorao, *alias* Nana Waud.
- 2d. Hurry Punt Fatuck, *alias* Hurry Bullab Fatuck.
- 3d. Nana Fatuck.
- 4th. Narrain Bhutt Chitney.
- 5th. Morapunt Josce Kodowley Kur.
- 6th. Balcrishna Ragoonath, *alias* Balkoba Kelkur.
- 7th. Dajee Balumbhut, *alias* Dajeeba Waed.
- 8th. Balumbhut Moongeykur.
- 9th. Teejeeram Jawhurdoss.
- 10th. Bhugwan Teejeeram.
- 11th. Wassodeo Shastry Agasee.
- 12th. Govind Row Dewan.
- 13th. Luximon Nagesh Waud, *alias* Lukhoba Waud.
- 14th. Kessow Bucheerow Josee.
- 15th. Gopal Jyeram Kolutkur.
- 16th. Morapunt Putwurdhun Waeekur.
- 17th. Nilloo Abbajee Bhenkunkur.
- 18th. Abbajee Narrain Josee.
- 19th. Sunjeewun Tyling Bhramin.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Governor,
5 May 1938.

- 20th. Aube bin Peerajee Ghatgay.
- 21st. Sukhojee bin Limbasse Pursat.
- 22d. Wenkappa bin Hillajee Powar.
- 23d. Hybuttee bin Jotiajee Yadow.
- 24th. Pelloo bin Sooltanjee Patell.
- 25th. Khundojee bin Tookajee Powar.
- 26th. His Highness the Raja of Sattara.
- 27th. Bala Sahib Senaputtee Bhonsleh.
- 28th. Dinkur Row Mohiteh.
- 29th. Rowlojee Naik Khaskur.
- 30th. Don Manoel de Portugal e Castro, Viceroy of Goa.
- 31st. Irkool, *alias* Erculan, *alias* Herculano.
- 32d. Essajee Ramkrushna, *alias* Raojee Kotences.
- 33d. Mugdoom-more, *alias* Mudumore.
- 34th. Nursew Bhartee Sunker Acharya, Swamee of Sunkeshwur.
- 35th. Mahdeo Row Sirkey.
- 36th. The twelve persons named in the petition received by Government from Girjabace, the mother of Govind Row Dewan.
- 37th. Elojee Mohitch.
- 38th. Bhanjee Mahreck, and his two sons, Abba and Appa Mareck.
- 39th. Purshotum Brahmin.
- 40th. Vishnoo Kessoo Dewustuley, maternal uncle of Govind Row Dewan.

29. I will now offer a few remarks on the above list, in elucidation of the share which each person took in the intrigue, and of the evidence by which their participation in it is established.

30. Nago Deorao, the first person on the list, was, as I have said, the principal agent on the part of the Raja of Sattara. Wassoodco Agasee (No. 1, List A.) states, that Nago first came to Poona from Baroda with some horse, and that he was in the Sattara risala of horse. Dajeeba Waud (No. 2, List A.) calls him "Nagoba Nana Waud," and he is therefore in these proceedings indiscriminately called "Nago Waced" and "Nana Waced." His family lived at Wace, about twenty miles from Sattara, and his son (No. 6, List A.) states, that his father was absent eight years "frequently revisiting Sattara, " and used to go to and fro between Kenanee, Wace, Sunkeshwur, and Goa." Hurry Punt Fatuck (No. 21, List A.) a relation of Nago Deorao's, states that Nago first came to Sattara two or three years after the introduction of the British rule into the Deccan, and that about twelve years ago he brought the Swamee of Sunkeshwur, and introduced him to the Raja, and that through the Swamee's influence the Raja was persuaded to enter into communications with Goa. Sungeewun (No. 7, List A.) who was in the service of Nago Deorao's father and of Nago himself for forty-five years, states that the father was in the habit of practising as a royal physician at Poona; that Nago formerly belonged to a risala of horse at Baroda which was afterwards sent to Sattara; that this was the origin of his connection with the Raja, and that he was strongly recommended to the Raja by the Swamee of Sunkeshwur. This witness, however, though generally very satisfactory, seems to misplace, by about two years, the recommendation he refers to, as a close collation of his evidence with that of other witnesses will shew. Hybuttee bin Jotiajee (No. 13, List A.) another servant, places the commencement of Nago's intimacy with the Raja a few days before the Raja proceeded to the Sinkust at Nas-sick, on which occasion his master accompanied the Raja as far as Devor: the date, therefore, of this intimacy must, as I have already remarked, be fixed about the middle of 1825. Raojee Kotenees (No. 22, List A.) states, that when he first became acquainted with Nago Deorao, he described himself as having been physician to the Peishwa, then a Sirdar of five hundred horse at Ahmedabad; that his father had possessed great influence with the Peishwa; and that he had been a Sirdar of five hundred horse under the English, but had given up the service. Raojee further describes Nago as having first visited Goa in the character of the Swamee's emissary; and this is not a contradiction of the evidence in general, and is directly confirmed by the testimony

Dajeeba and Balkoba, each professing to speak on the authority of Nago himself.

SATTAR
PAPERS

Minute
by the Gover
5 May 185

31. All that I think it necessary further to say of Nago, in this place, is, that his death, to which I have already adverted, took place at Sawunt. Warree on the 30th July 1836, and that his character as an agent in the intrigue is thus given by Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens: "He appears to have been well suited for the purpose, and his zeal is proved by many of the papers which have fallen into my hands. He was a person of consideration in this country, being the son of Deorao Waud, of Wae, who attended as a physician on Bajee Row, Peishwa, and who was much in repute with the great people at that time about the Court of Poona." (Report of 11th November 1837, paragraph 6.)

32. The seven following persons on the list were all very active agents in the intrigue under Nago Deorao. I class them together, because by one another they are frequently termed the "mundulee," or party engaged in the affair. One of them, Nana Fatuck, the son of Hurry Punt Fatuck, died several years ago; and another of them, Balumbhut Moongeykur, is supposed to have secreted himself in the Goa territory. The remaining six have all confessed, more or less, the share they took in the Raja's designs, as I shall in the sequel shew. Their evidence was obtained under such circumstances, as altogether to preclude the possibility of their having acted in concert or collusion with one another; and, if this be admitted, the guilt of the Raja must be held conclusively established.

33. Hurry Punt Fatuck (second on the list). This person states, that "Nago Deorao was his paternal aunt's son;" which sufficiently accounts for his having been employed in the intrigue. His evidence is No. 21 of Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens's List, and is most important. His son accompanied Nago to Goa, and was one of the persons who, in June 1831, brought the Portuguese Herculano to Sattara. After his son's death in 1832, in conjunction with Narrain Bhutt Chitney and Rowlajec Naik, he appears to have had the chief management of the Goa intrigue at Sattara, but he never went himself to Goa. He was one of the Raja's salaried agents, and was one of those who lodged funds at the banker Teejeeram's, to meet the heavy expenses of the intrigue. He was in direct communication with the Raja, had several interviews with him, and more especially was one of those present at the introduction of Herculano, and shared in the liberal gifts bestowed by the Raja on that occasion. He further deposes, from personal knowledge, to most of the transactions of importance, detailed in Mr. Willoughby's summaries of evidence.

34. Narrain Bhutt Chitney (fourth on the list). The occupation of this person is thus described by Visoeskwer Bhutt Chitney, his uncle (No. 5 of Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens's list). "Narrain Bhutt Chitney is my nephew; he and I live together; I am a bhickshook (one who lives on alms and gifts), and Narrain Bhutt, by managing communications of people, gains a livelihood; he used to act as a Vakeel of Vissajee Punt Nana, the Row Sahib Dewan and the Mamlutdar Gopalrow." Govind Row Dewan (No. 28 of Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens's list) mentions the remarkable circumstance of Narrain Bhutt, all of a sudden appearing a man in affluent circumstances; so much so, that the owner of the house in which he lived brought an action against him, on the supposition that he had discovered hidden treasure in the house. Govind Row, on seeking an explanation from the Bhutt, was answered thus: "With the Gomantuck Wala (the Goa Authorities) the Maharaj has formed some private intercourse, in which business I am concerned, on that account the Maharaj gives me privately cash for expenses. In this affair Nagoba Waeed has been appointed agent on the part of the Maharaj." The Bhutt's evidence, as will be anticipated from the above account of him, is very important. He went several times to Goa, first in 1829 and again in 1830-31, and was one of the agents through whom the funds paid to Teejeeram were received. He was one of the persons who received an annual salary from the Raja, with whom he was frequently in direct communication. He was not

**SATTARA
PAPERS.**

Minute
by the Governor,
5 May 1838.

actually present at the interview between the Raja and Herculano, but was at the time at Sattara, and confirms many of the particulars of that mission. His testimony regarding various interviews between the Raja and the parties employed by him, as well as respecting the correspondence with Goa, is exceedingly clear and conclusive.

35. Morapunt Josee (fifth of my list.) This was another of the principal agents under Nago Deorao. He acknowledges that he was in the habit of accompanying Nago into the Goa districts. It appears that his uncle, Chintopunt Josee, who died some years ago, was one of Nago's associates, which accounts for his own connexion with the intrigue. He states that he and Balumbhut delivered a letter from the Viceroy of Goa to the Raja, and that he himself, on one occasion, received Rupees 2,500 from the Senaputtee on account of the Goa affair, which sum he paid to Teejeeram. He also proves the mission of Mahdeo Row Sirkey to Goa, was with Nago Deorao when he died, and wrote the letter to the Raja which Nago dictated on his death-bed.

36. Balkoba Kelkur (sixth of my list). This is another of the agents who received salaries, and was the brother-in-law of Nago Deorao. He himself says, "Nago Deorao Nana Waud is the husband of my sister." Accordingly he was in Nago's full confidence, received from him the papers and seals, and the letter which he addressed to the Raja on his death-bed, and took a very active part throughout the intrigues at Goa. His evidence will be found to bear on all the most remarkable facts detailed in these proceedings. By his own account, he does not appear to have accompanied Nago either on his visits to the Raja or to the Viceroy, but he accompanied Morapunt Josee to the Senaputtee, and fully confirms the statement made by that person, regarding the receipt and payment to Teejeeram of the sum of 2,500 rupees.

37. Dajeeba Waeed (seventh of my list). Was the son of Nago Deorao's cousin, Balumbhut, and was Nago's constant companion for nearly three years antecedent to his death at Waree in July 1836. He was consequently with Nago at Goa, Sattara, Renanee, and Sunkeshwur, and affords very detailed accounts of his proceedings towards the close of his career. His evidence will be found in Nos. 2 and 24 of Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens's list A, and also in the accompaniment to the Acting Resident's letter of the 12th August 1837. His evidence partly consists of what he learnt from Nago himself, and latterly of what passed under his own observation. It is worthy of remark, that the information which this person afforded at the commencement of the inquiry was fully corroborated afterwards by the other agents concerned, who had not then been traced out. He was with Nago at the period of his death, and his evidence, in regard to the papers then in the possession of that person, is most important.

38. Teejeeram Jawhurdoss, and his son, Bhugwan (No. 9 and 10 of my list), are highly important witnesses. They are bankers residing at Sattara, through whom the pecuniary transactions connected with the intrigue were conducted, of which transactions they have furnished full evidence from their books. The manner in which Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens obtained possession of those books, and in which the detailed extracts submitted to him were made and verified, are described by that officer in his letter to Government of the 3d instant. The accuracy of the extracts cannot be impeached; and it seems to me that falsification, on any large scale, was physically impossible. The father states, that the names, "Soopoojee and Doordajee," in which a considerable portion of the account stands, are feigned for Rowlojee Naik, a person in the service of the Raja; that the money he received came from Rowlojee, who has no means of his own, and that it is his belief that it belonged to the Raja. The Acting Resident reports, that his evidence was given with great caution. The son corroborates his father's evidence, and adds, that he was in the habit of bringing money from Rowlojee Naik's house with Narrain Bhutt and Hurry Punt Fatuck.

39. Wassodeo Shastry Agasee (No. 11 of my list), is an inhabitant of Rutnagheery. He states, that he is a kinsman of Hurry Punt Fatuck, to whom Nago Deorao is related; that owing to this connection, he lived with

SATTAR.
PAPERSMinute
by the Gover
5 May 1836

Nago Deorao at Sunkeshwur, and has known of the Goa affair nine or ten years. He is described by one of the witnesses (No. 17 of Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans's list) as having been a disciple of Ballajee Punt, the father of Hurry Punt Fatuck; and he himself states, that he was at Sattara when Nago arrived with his horse from Baroda. Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans remarks, that it was this person who gave him the first detailed account of the Goa affair; and it appears to have been on the information which he afforded, that the other parties were traced out. Much of his evidence is hearsay; but it contains one fact of essential importance, namely, that he himself copied the *yad* of stipulations brought by Nago Deorao from Sattara to Sunkeshwur, about ten or twelve years ago, and that this copy was retained by the Swamee of Sunkeshwur.

40. Govind Row Dewan (No. 12 of my list), held a confidential office under the Raja of Sattara, and is now a state prisoner at Ahmednuggur, for being deeply implicated in the attempt made to seduce from their allegiance the Soobadars of the 23d Regiment; he was not, therefore, like all the other witnesses, examined by Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans, but by the Judge of Ahmednuggur. I think it extremely probable that this person has not disclosed all he knows; but, nevertheless, he has corroborated several of the circumstances detailed by the other witnesses, without the possibility of communicating with them, or acting in concert.

41. Luximon Nagesh (thirteenth of my list), is the eldest son of Nago Deorao. The chief facts to which he deposes are, that he received, during five or six years, money for the expenses of his family from Teejeeram, by order of Hurry Punt and Narrain Bhutt, and that Nago's papers and seals were left with Balkoba Kelkur.

42. Kessow Buchecrow Josec (fourteenth of my list), is another brother-in-law of Nago Deorao, and according to Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans's report, an unwilling witness; but he proves some of the most recent journeyings of Nago, the persons who accompanied him, and that himself and Balkoba took cloths and hoondees from Sattara to Araba and Warree in April 1836.

43. Gopal Jycram Kolutkur (fifteenth of my list), is the person who brought an action against Narrain Bhutt, when he suddenly rose from poverty to riches, believing that the Bhutt had discovered treasures which had been secreted by his ancestors. His evidence is not very important; except that he states, that Nago, about twelve years ago, left with his father a packet, said to contain papers connected with the Goa affair, and which was afterwards given to a servant of Nago Deorao, named Hybuttee bin Jotiajee Yadow. It is curious, also, that he still maintains that Narrain Bhutt Chitney had abstracted hidden treasure from his house.

44. Morapunt Puntwurdhun Waeckur (sixteenth of my list), says: "At Waee, Nago and myself lived near each other, and we used constantly to visit each other's houses." This person deposes to a meeting between Nago and the Swamee in Kalapore, about twelve years ago, which is also proved by other evidence. He states further, that Nana went from Sunkeshwur to Sattara with the Swamee, about the period when the intrigue was first formed, and that Nago then acquainted him with the plot.

45. Nilloo Abbajee and Abbajee Narrain (seventeenth and eighteenth of my list) clearly prove, that some particulars of the Goa intrigues were communicated to Colonels Briggs and Robertson. For the nature of their evidence I beg to refer to the summary marked AA. 12.

46. The next seven witnesses on my list (namely, Nos. 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, and 25) are a most important class. They were all, at one time or another, in the service of Nago Deorao, and give very minute and detailed accounts of his journeyings backwards and forwards, between Sattara and Goa. I deem them so important, that I shall give a short account of each. They appear to have been traced out by the zeal and diligence of the Acting Resident on the information of Dajeeba Waeed (seventh of my list), who on

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Governor,
5 May 1838.

the 20th July last deposed thus: "Out of the servants who were with Nana " and the attendants who went and came, some are at Waree, some at " Renavee, and some at Hutnoor under Sunkeshwur." They were also, with one exception, named by Nago's son, as having been in his father's service, so that no doubt can remain on this score.

47. No. 19 states, that he was for forty-five years Brahmin cook to Nago and his father; that he accompanied Nago to Ahmedabad, returned with him to Sattara, and continued in his service up to the day of his death, and frequently accompanied him in the repeated visits he made between Sattara and Goa. As far as I can judge from merely reading evidence, this witness appears to be very intelligent, and gives a very minute account of Nago's different journeys, his introduction to the Swamee, and to the Raja of Sattara, and states that he accompanied Nago to Goa ten years ago. An instance of slight inaccuracy in his testimony I have already noticed.

48. No. 20 was, seven years ago (1829-30), for two months employed by Nana Fatuck, whom he accompanied on his mission to Goa, about the time when Erculan was brought to Sattara. He entered Nago Deorao's service six years and a half ago, and always went about with him during two years and a half, until he was discharged four years ago, since which he has been a cultivator. He states, that he saw Erculan at Meerug after he had visited Sattara; that he went with his master to the Governor of Goa, and saw a horse which was given by Nago to the governor.

49. No. 21 entered Nago's service four years ago (1832-33), and served him three years; went with him to Goa, Sattara, and other places.

50. No. 22 entered as a horse-keeper in Nago's risala, before he came from Baroda to Sattara, was discharged four years ago (1832-33), and performed "the duties of horse-keeper, servant, or any thing else under Nago;" was with his master when the Swamee came to Sattara, and accompanied him to Goa and Sattara, backwards and forwards. This person proves that Nago was in want of employment at the time when the Goa intrigues began. He also proves Nago's visits to the Raja and the Governor of Goa, and Erculan's mission to Sattara.

51. No. 23 was entertained by Nago just before the Raja of Sattara proceeded on a pilgrimage to Nassick, more than twelve years ago, and continued in his service up to the period of his death in July 1836. This man gives a very detailed account of his master's journeyings between Goa and Sattara, and his visits to the Raja and the Viceroy.

52. No. 24 was Nago's servant for four or five years, and was discharged five years ago (1831-32). On the occasion of Herculano's mission, he accompanied Raojee Kotencees from Goa to Sattara. He proves the visits of Nago to the Raja and to the Governor of Goa.

53. No. 25 was entertained by Nago in his service four years ago, and accompanied him to Goa, continued in his service eighteen months, and was discharged two years and a half ago. He deposes to his master visiting the Viceroy of Goa.

54. His Highness the Raja of Sattara (No. 26 of my list) is proved, by the strongest evidence, to have been cognizant of, and privy to, the negotiations with the Governor of Goa; to have advanced, through a servant of his own, funds for the expenses of the intrigues, to have held repeated interviews with the agents employed; to have received a special mission from the Governor of Goa, and to have sent one to the Governor, when about to quit India for Portugal; to have made various presents of value to the parties connected with the intrigue, and to have entertained the design of sending an agent to Portugal in furtherance of his treacherous plans. These facts will, however, be more fully elucidated, when I come to remark on the summaries of evidence annexed to this minute.

55. Bala Sahib Senaputtee (No. 27 of my list) is a relation of the Raja of Sattara, is high in his confidence, and is Senaputtee, or commander of his troops.

troops. He appears to have taken a conspicuous part in these intrigues, and to have been present at several of the meetings which occurred between the Raja and his agents. One of these, indeed, occurred at the Senaputtee's own house. He is particularly mentioned by the witnesses Nos. 2, 15, 21, and 26, of Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans's list. He has not as yet been informed of the heavy charges which hang over him.

56. Dinkur Row Mohiteh (No. 28 of my list) is also an officer of the Sattara Government, and high in the Raja's confidence. He appears implicated in about the same degree as the Senaputtee, and is mentioned as concerned in the intrigues by the witnesses Nos. 2, 15, 21, 26, and 27, of Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans's list.

57. Rowlojee Naik Khaskur (No. 29 of my list) is mentioned as having taken a very active part in Nago Deorao's proceedings by the witnesses Nos. 2, 4, 7, 15, 21, 25, 26, and 27, of the Acting Resident's list. He seems to have been a kind of intermediate between the Raja and his agents: he introduces the latter to the palace, conveys funds to Teejeeeram's bank to defray the expenses of Nago Deorao and his associates. Teejeeeram (No. 9 of my list) states that he "is a servant of the Maharaj Sirkar, a Jemadar in the risala of horse." In Dr. Milne's address to the Governor of India, dated the 10th February last, this fact is placed beyond doubt; for it is distinctly said, "this man (Rowlojee) is only a Sirdar of Sepoys," in the Raja's service. Rowlojee has been examined by the Acting Resident, and denied or pleaded ignorance of every thing; but, as is justly observed by Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans, his conduct, when under examination, speaks for itself. (*Vide* No. 9 of list A).

58. With respect to Don Manoel de Portugal e Castro, Governor of Goa, and No. 30 of my list, I have obtained from the public records the following information:—

59. On the 11th October 1827, Don Manoel announced to the Bombay Government that he had assumed charge of the Government of the Portuguese States in India. On the 11th February 1835, he wrote to Lord Clare from Vingorla, that in consequence of the unfortunate events which had taken place at Goa since the 14th January of that year, when his government had ceased, and the new Governor (Sr. Bernardo Peres da Silva) had commenced his functions, he had been obliged to leave that place, and had deputed his Aide-de-camp, Lieutenant-Colonel Sanches, to Bombay, to procure a passage for himself and his family, and he requested Lord Clare to afford him every assistance requisite to effect the arrangement with the utmost possible economy. In a further letter to myself, dated the 20th February 1835, the ex-Governor requested this government to cause any of the Company's vessels, or any other ship on their return to Europe, to touch at Vingorla, for the purpose of conveying himself and his family to any Port in Portugal or the Azore Islands, and stated, that he hoped that her Most Faithful Majesty's Government would defray any expense that might be incurred.

60. A passage was accordingly engaged for Don Manoel on board the *Ganges*, for the sum of 7,000 rupees; and he was informed that that sum had been advanced to the commander of the vessel by this Government, under an expectation that the amount would be defrayed by the Government of Portugal, and the Honourable Court of Directors were advised of our proceedings.

61. Don Manoel and his suite embarked accordingly on board the *Ganges*, on the 20th March 1835; but, in consequence of a disagreement with the commander, about the end of that month or the beginning of the next, he disembarked at Changoucherry,* and on the 8th of April embarked at Quilon, on board of the *Providence*, for Goa, where he resided until the 18th March 1836, on which date he finally left India on board the *Princeza Redi*, for Lisbon. I request particular attention to these details, because, in the sequel,

I shall

* His disembarkation at this place is noticed in the *Bombay Gazette* of the 29th April 1835.

SATTARA
PAPERS.Minute
by the Governor,
5 May 1838.

I shall have to shew that they verify, in a very remarkable manner, some of the statements made by the witnesses in the Goa case.

62. I am informed that Don Manoel and his government were, in reality, in the interest of Don Miguel* and his party, although, when the cause of Don Pedro succeeded in Portugal, he exhibited outward demonstrations of joy; and, since his return from India, he has not only been well received by the Queen's Government, but has been appointed to the office of comptroller of her household. His brother, the Marquis of Valencia, is likewise in the Queen's confidence, and holds an office in her household. In *Galignani's Messenger*, of the 8th July 1837, appeared the following notice:—

“M. Thomas de Mello has been replaced in his post in the Queen's household by M. Manoel de Portugal, brother of the Marquis of Valencia, who has just arrived from India, where he was formerly Governor.” (*Vide* No. 40. List E.)

63. Irkool, *alias* Erculan, *alias* Hereculano (No. 31 of my list). This person appears to have taken, from the first, a very active part in the intrigue. He was the person who, in conjunction with Raojee Kotenees, first introduced Nago Deorao to the Viceroy of Goa; but the most important transaction in which he was engaged was his mission to Sattara, and clandestine interview with the Raja, which is clearly established by the summary of evidence marked AA. 8. Our information regarding this person is, as yet, very scanty. It is, however, clear from the deposition of Dajeeba Wand and Raojee Kotenees (Nos. 2 and 22 of list A), that he is a medical officer—the former calls him a “Christian Doctor;”—and it appears that it was proposed to send him to Sattara, under pretence of administering medicines. From the evidence of the Kotenees, moreover, it is to be inferred that he was in the service† of the Government of Goa; for, in his account of Erculan's interview with the Raja, Raojee states, that when, at the close of the interview, presents were bestowed, and he himself was offered a *gope* (golden chain) of twenty-seven tolas weight, he expostulated, and said, “I have not come to take any gold chains. *Erculan is a Government servant*, I have come in company with him. Nago Deorao promised me suitable employment, and in consequence of his so speaking I have come.” It is understood that this person is now residing at Demaun, and were it not for the peremptory instructions we have received from the Government of India, to close the inquiry and not to pursue any collateral branches of it, I should be much disposed to attempt to trace him out, and to endeavour to obtain his evidence, which might prove highly important. In deference to the above orders, however, I do not think we can take such a course. In a memorandum of the 5th September last, Mr. Wathen gives the following account:—

“Erculan is a native of Goa, and attached to the Portuguese army as a medical officer; he was a great favourite with the former Viceroy, Don Manoel, and also of the ex-Viceroy's mistress, who was a native of Madeira.”

64. Raojee Kotenees (No. 32 of my list), has, from the first, taken so active and conspicuous a part in the intrigue, that I am not surprised to find one of the summaries of evidence (marked AA. 37) exclusively occupied with his proceedings.

* In the *Bombay Gazette* of the 30th May 1835, it is said, that he was appointed by Don Miguel, and that, on the Queen's accession, he was superseded by Sr. Peres.

† I have since been informed that he was the senior medical officer of the 1st European Regiment of Goa. On the 16th March last, Raojee Kotenees furnished the following further information regarding Hereculano:—“Irkool was a servant of the Portuguese Government; he held the office of Surgeon (surgeon) of the regiment. In a letter from my brother Narrain, dated the 20th January 1838, from Araba, he states, Irkool is still at Demaun. Irkool has a house at Rybunder, and practises as a physician. He has been the servant of the Portuguese Government for the last fifteen or twenty years. His father, named Messauti, was a celebrated physician, and was employed by the Portuguese Government in the hospital. I have seen him. They are Christians and Wuttundars of Goa. Irkoolan used to wear a blue coat of woollen cloth, similar to that worn by other officers of the regiment. To one regiment three surgeons are attached, of whom he was one. He used to wear a sword. He is of dark complexion, middling stature, and about forty-five years of age.”—(*Vide* Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens's Letter, 19th March 1838.)

SATTARA
PAPERS.Minute
by the Govern
5 May 1838

proceedings. Of his personal history we know little. He is a subject of Goa, usually resident at the village of Araba, belonging to that government, and was one of those with whom the intrigue originated. It having been ascertained that he was in Bombay, without apparently having any suspicion of the proofs which had been obtained against him, he was, under the authority of Government, apprehended by the Police and sent to Sattara, every care being taken to prevent his collusion with the other witnesses. His evidence clearly establishes almost all the principal facts of the case, from its commencement many years ago up to its discovery. He was numbered among the agents to whom salaries were assigned, accompanied Erculan to Sattara, and was present at the interview which followed with the Raja. He also narrates, in detail, several other visits which he paid to the Raja and to the Viceroy, in furtherance of the objects of the intrigue; but, nevertheless, a perusal of his evidence has impressed me with the conviction that he has not made a full and fair disclosure of all he knows. On his evidence Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans remarks, "Raojee Kotenees is a subject of the Goa Government, consequently he has spoken out regarding his interviews with the Raja of Sattara; but he has shewn great reluctance to implicate the Goa Authorities, from a fear of the consequences on his return to that country."—(Report of the 11th November, paragraph 16.)

65. Mugdoo-more, *alias* Mudumore. This is not the name of a person, but of a situation or office, and it has been suggested to me that it is a corruption of the Portuguese designation "Mordomo-mor," which means Major-domo or steward. He was immediately attached, whatever his office, to the Governor of Goa. I have retained the application of Mudumore in order to avoid confusion, because, in almost all the translations of the evidence sent by Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans, it appears to signify the name of a person. Raojee Kotenees, however, in his evidence (No. 22 of Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans's list), thus explains who is meant: "The name of Mudumore (or the Major-domo) is Javan Cooraec,* a Portuguese by tribe. Mudumore is the name of a situation, or that of private Carbarry to the Governor. He used to reside and dine at the Governor's palace; he came and returned with the Governor to Portugal." The situation held by this person, therefore, sufficiently accounts for the part which he took in these proceedings, and the means taken by Nago Deorao and his associates to ingratiate themselves with him, and to secure his interest and influence with the Governor, which may reasonably be presumed to have been very considerable.

66. The four persons last described are the only persons belonging to Goa who are known to have taken an active part in the intrigue. Raojee Kotenees states, that at the meetings between the Governor and Nago Deorao, Erculan and some Hindoos acted as interpreters; and the witness (No. 2 of Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans's list) mentions "Gopal Row Dessoy" and "Suckharam Kamut Goakur Doabhaee Chitnavees" as having been employed. He also states, that Nago "had contracted friendship with the Judge of Goa, named Silva, who is familiar with the matter;" but the name of this person does not otherwise appear throughout these proceedings.

67. Nursew Bhartee Sunker Acharya, a Swamee of Sunkeshwur (No. 34 of my list). There can be little doubt that it was this person who first persuaded the Raja of Sattara to embark in the dangerous course which he has pursued. He appears to have belonged to that class of persons who must feel acutely what they have lost by British ascendancy, and consequently are inimical to our power. He possessed great power and influence in the Southern Mahratta country, and we may judge how this would tell on the mind of the Raja, when we find two of the witnesses making use of the remarkable expression, that when the Swamee first visited Sattara more than twelve years ago, on the occurrence of the celebrated Jatra at Nassick, "The Sirkar performed the worship of the Swamee," (*vide* Nos. 2 and 21 of Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans's list.) Mr. Dunlop, in one of his reports, states that this Swamee was "an

" inveterate

* I am told the real name of this officer was "Javan Beetancavi."

SATTARA
PAPERS.Minute
by the Governor,
5 May 1838.

"inveterate intriguer;"* and, according to one of the witnesses (No. 1 of Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans's list), his intrigues were not confined to his own vicinity, but extended to distant parts, as he states that, about eight years ago, the Swamee sent an emissary to the ex-Peishwa, to Scindia, and to the Guicowar, but that the ex-Peishwa answered evasively, while the two other powers distinctly declined to enter into the treasonable designs proposed.† It is, however, only a waste of time to dwell on the share which this person took in the intrigue, for he died on the 14th April 1837. The office he held is the principal one of the kind in the country, and is looked up to with so much respect, that Mr. Elphinstone included him in the first class of privileged persons in the Southern Mahratta country; and the possessions attached to the office are of considerable value, chiefly consisting of ten villages, whose estimated annual revenue is 21,276 rupees.

68. Mahdeo Row Sirkey (No. 35 of my list.) I am glad to find that Mr. Willoughby has devoted a separate summary (marked AA. 9), in illustration of the share which this person took in the intrigue. He is stated, as I have already said, to have been distantly related to the Raja of Sattara; and it is clearly proved that, in September 1835, he was deputed to Goa, and had an interview with Don Manoel prior to his departure for Europe, and after he had disembarked from the ship *Ganges*. He made presents on that occasion, and died shortly after his return to Sattara.

69. The twelve persons named in Gircabacc's petition (No. 36 of my list). These are,

1. Bulwunt Row Chitnavees.
2. Kasee Punt Bundary.
3. Dajeeba Josee Dufterdar.
4. Visow Nana Shewey.
5. Wittul Row Sukharam, *alias* Abba Parisnees.
6. Babajee Purarkur.
7. Bejaba Purarkur.
8. Chintapunt Bhattey.
9. Bappoo Kanoo.
10. Gopal Row Kanneen.
11. Senaputty Balla Sahib Bhonsleh.
12. Senakurty Dinkur Row Mohitch.

70. Of the above, No. 1 is high in the confidence of the Raja. He is proved to have been concerned in these intrigues by the evidence of Nos. 2, 3, and 5, of the above list, and by that of Elojee Mohitch and Babajee Soobadar.

71. No. 2 is stated by Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans to have been "for many years one of the Mundullee, or party about the palace, and in the confidence of the Raja and his advisers." He has imparted to us the knowledge which he possesses of the Raja's proceedings.

72. No. 3 is reported to be "a man of the first respectability, was high in Captain Grant's confidence, and entitled to implicit credit." His evidence, as observed in my Minute of the 22d September last, is of considerable importance; because, from his situation of Dufterdar, he must have had good opportunity of becoming acquainted with the intrigues to which he bears witness. He thus describes himself:—"I was first employed by Captain Grant at Sattara, as Survaba. In 1828-29 the Raja appointed me Dufterdar, which I have been conducting up to this day."

73. Nos. 4 and 10. Nothing very particular has been elicited against these persons, who may therefore be dismissed without remark.

74. No.

* Mr. Dunlop, in a letter quoted by Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans, in the thirty-second paragraph of his report of the 11th November 1837, states, "The late Sunkeshwur Swamee had the character of being an inveterate intriguer."

†. *Vide* Mr. Dunlop's reports, dated 19th April and 3d and 30th August 1837.

74. No. 5 is the brother-in-law of No. 1, and consequently his sources of information are good: his character, however, is not the best, as he was convicted of bribery and was dismissed the service. He appears to have taken an active part in the intrigues; more especially in those with the ex-Raja of Nagpore. He has now come forward and disclosed what he knows on the subject.

75. No. 6 is the Raja's private Secretary; his concern in the affair is proved by Nos. 2, 3, and 5 of the list, and by the evidence of Abba Mareek and Elojee Mohiteh.

76. No. 7 is the Dewan of the Raja's brother, and has supplied information on the subject of the intrigues.

No. 8 is at the head of the Adawlut at Sattara.

No. 9 is dead.

Nos. 11 and 12 are 27 and 28 of my list, and have already been described.

77. For the history of Girjabace's petition, I beg to refer to Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens's reports, dated 12th August and 6th September last. I shall only here quote the following passage from the 14th paragraph of the last despatch, which has reference to Nos. 1, 3, 6, 7, 11, and 12 of the above list. "They are all confidential officers of the Raja, and have been so for years, in the enjoyment of large salaries and emoluments, and have every thing to lose and nothing to gain by a change."

78. Elojee Mohiteh (No. 37 of my list). This person has made some important disclosures, more especially regarding the mission sent to the ex-Raja of Nagpore. He is the brother of Dinkur Row (No. 28 of my list), and the brother-in-law of Appa Sahib, the ex-Raja of Nagpore.

79. Bhanjee Mareek and his two sons (No. 38 of my list). Of these, the son, Abba Mareek, is the most deeply implicated. He has confessed, and has corroborated in a most remarkable manner, the statement of the two Soobadars of the 23d Regiment, regarding their clandestine interview with Govind Row Dewan.

80. Purshotum, a Brahmin. This person was deputed to Joudpore, and has disclosed what he knows regarding that mission.

81. Vishnoo Kessoo Dewustuley (No. 40, and the last person in my list,) is the maternal uncle of Govind Row Dewan. He was one of the persons who advised Girjabace to present her petition to Government; and in that petition have originated the inquiries which, among other important results, have led to the detection of the treasonous intercourse with Goa.

82. I have now completed the first of my three proposed divisions; and, before I proceed to consider and point out the evidence bearing on the several parts of the case, it may, perhaps, assist my Colleagues, and the superior Authorities by whom these proceedings will be ultimately received; if I explain briefly the localities where the Goa intrigues were chiefly conducted.

1st. Kodawly, where Nago Deorao usually resided when he returned from his visits to Goa, is a village about two miles from Sattara. Here he used to put up at the house of Morapunt Josec, and from thence he was in the habit of visiting Sattara at night, for the purpose of meeting the Raja and the agents employed under him.

2d. The Kurunja-bagh, where Herculano halted on the night of his arrival at Sattara, is a garden so called, close to Sattara, and belonging to the Raja.

3d. Pallee is a village about fourteen miles south of Sattara, belonging to the Raja.

4th. Renavee is a village about fifty miles south-east of Sattara; and belongs to the Raja. Several of the witnesses state that Nago Deorao resided here for the space of a year, whilst the intrigues were in progress.

5th. Revensidh is a temple, and its precincts so called, situated on a hill at a short distance from Renavee.

SATTARA.
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Governr.
5 May 1885

SATTARA
PAPERS.Minute
by the Governor,
5 May 1838.

6th. Korgaon is a village about twelve miles south of Sawunt Waree, belonging to Goa.

7th. Pedney is another Portuguese village, about ten miles south of Korgaon.

8th. Araba, where Raojee Kotenees resided, is about ten miles north of Goa, to which it belongs.

9th. Rybunder and Panjum are suburbs of Goa, or more correctly speaking, constitute the modern city of that name. The ancient site of Goa is further up the river, and is nearly deserted by all its former inhabitants, except the monks belonging to the convents.

10th. Sunkeshwur, the place which Nago almost invariably visited in his journeyings between Sattara and Goa, belongs to the Swamee of that name, and was the place of his residence.

11th. Sawunt Waree, where Nago Deorao died in July 1836, belongs to a chief so named, and is on the confines of the Goa territories.

12th. Meeruj, where Nago Deorao is stated to have met Herculano a few days after his mission to Sattara, is on the straight road from Sattara to Goa, *via* the Ramghat, which is the great entrance into the Deccan. The road by Kolapore leads down the Hummunt Ghaut, through Sawunt Waree, to Goa. Revendsidh and Sunkeshwur are in the direction of Meeruj, which probably induced Nago Deorao and his associates to select that route.

13th. Desh. This term is frequently used by the witnesses, and evidently refers to Sattara, or perhaps to the Deccan. For instance, when it is said Nago Deorao returned to the Desh, it is to be understood that he proceeded in the direction of the Deccan and Sattara.

83. Having now concluded my observations on the chief persons concerned in the Goa intrigue, I have to request attention to the evidence by which their participation in it is established. This important part of the subject is, in a great degree, accomplished by the summaries already referred to, and my immediate duty will be little more than to describe the objects of the several summaries. In order to avoid confusion with the references in Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens's report of the 11th November last, I have marked these summaries AA. 1. to AA. 12.

84. In the first summary (AA. 1.) is embodied the whole of the oral evidence which has been obtained, to show what was the object and design of the Raja of Sattara in establishing and maintaining an intercourse with the Government of Goa. The witnesses to this point are:

- | | | | |
|-------------------------------|---|--------|-------------|
| 1. Hurry Punt Fatuck | - | No. 2 | of my list. |
| 2. Raojee Kotenees | - | No. 32 | do. |
| 3. Balkoba Ketkur | - | No. 6 | do. |
| 4. Moro Bullal Josce | - | No. 5 | do. |
| 5. Narrain Blutt Chitney | - | No. 4 | do. |
| 6. Govind Row Dewan | - | No. 28 | do. |
| 7. Wassodeo Shastry | - | No. 11 | do. |
| 8. Dajeeba Waud | - | No. 7 | do. |
| 9. Morapunt Putwurdhun | - | No. 16 | do. |
| 10. Purshotum Annunt Gosavce | - | No. 39 | do. |
| 11. Wittul Row Sukharam | - | No. 36 | do. |
| 12. Vishnoo Kessoo Dewustuley | - | No. 40 | do. |

85. This subject will be more fully elucidated when I come to remark on the documentary evidence; but if, as I decidedly think, credence is due to the witnesses in this case generally, there can be no doubt that the object of these plots was to enter into an offensive and defensive alliance with Portugal against the British Government, and that, with this design, an agreement was drawn up, on the Raja's part, specifying the conditions under which such alliance would be formed. The principal of these were, that Portugal was to furnish an army for the recovery of the territories which formerly belonged to the Mahfattas; that its expenses were to be defrayed by the Raja; and that, when the object in view had been accomplished, the Portuguese were to be remu-

SATTARA
PAPERS.Minute
by the Governor
5 May 1888.

nerated in money and territory, and a portion of their army subsidized at Sattara. I think it unquestionable that the agents believed that these designs were really entertained by their master; but it is not very clear at what time, and in what manner, the tuhnamah, or agreement, to which they allude, was prepared. That such a document really did exist at an early period of the intrigue, I see no reason to doubt; and that it was taken by Nago Deorao to Goa, and there made use of, seems to me fully proved. There appears to me reason, however, for believing that there were various versions of it before it took the shape in which it finally appeared. One of the witnesses (No. 11 of my list), it will be seen, positively states, that he himself copied the draft of a treaty prepared at Sattara in the Suky year 1749 (A.D. 1827-28); that his copy was deposited with the Swamee of Sunkeshwur. The minuteness with which this person states from memory the different provisions of the instrument conveys an impression that he speaks the truth. The treaty, however, which he describes differs in several of its provisions from that which is now before us, and which bearing date on the 14th December 1829, must have been framed about two years later, though the general purport and leading objects of both are identical.

86. From the above details it will be seen that the plans of the Raja were sufficiently foolish and extravagant. In fact, his best hope of impunity is in the conviction, which will probably be felt by not a few persons, that no rational being could lend his mind to such projects, or ought to be suspected of having done so, on any evidence whatsoever. I answer, that we are not bound to prove the reasonableness of the designs in question, but the fact of their having been conceived and cherished; and that, strange as this fact may appear, it is by no means incredible, or beyond the power of strong and consistent testimony to establish.

87. I shall hereafter have occasion fully to shew that this prince was, from an early period, impressed with the most exaggerated idea of his own claims and pretensions; that, in place of those grateful feelings which he might have been expected to cherish for the immense benefits conferred on him, he was filled only with resentment at not having received the yet greater and more valuable advantages to which he conceived himself entitled; that this sentiment was inflamed by the notion industriously instilled into him of his having been treated with bad faith in the arrangement which placed him on the *gadi* of Sattara; and that, bolstered up by flatterers in these convictions of his consequence and his grievances, he has long been in a state of mind, to which any scheme which promised to avenge his wrongs and vindicate his dignity would find a ready access. Even under these impressions, it may seem singular enough that he should have indulged the hope of carrying his objects by the means on which he appears to have relied; but his extreme ignorance, his distempered ambition, and probably also a superstitious reliance on his destinies, may account for the readiness with which he grasped at a project so flattering to his ruling passion.

88. There is also to be noticed one circumstance in abatement of the absolute insanity of his designs, which may not, at first view, attract attention. It does not appear to me that he, at any moment from the beginning, contemplated the accomplishment of his purpose through an alliance with the Portuguese *single-handed*. Even in the draft Treaty of 1827-28, already mentioned, it is stipulated that France is to assist in the attempt with fifteen battalions. No such article, I admit, is inserted in the Treaty of December 1829; but it does not therefore follow that it was not understood among the parties to the intrigue that aid was to be derived from some of the great European Powers; and certainly this idea seems to have been often in their mouths. I give an instance from the letter of Joseo du Rocha to Nago Deorao, merely observing that, whoever the writer may have been, the letter is proved to have come out of Nago's possession. "Great disturbance prevails in Europe between three nations, English, French, and Russian, concerning their influence and interference with the other Cabinets, and hence it is expected that enmities and war will ensue. It is better, therefore, to have

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Governor,
5 May 1838.

“recourse to two, to put an end to the third, because the Englishmen are hated and disliked by the other two nations. The Russians are already near Persia; and I would send your worship the *Gazette* of that place, if I were not afraid that it would create suspicion.” Much more, to the same effect, will be found in paper No. 16 of list E.; but, without dwelling on the topic, I shall only add, that the astonishing ignorance which prevails among the Natives respecting the political circumstances of Europe renders them an easy prey to the most visionary representations of the movements or intentions of the nations in that quarter.

89. With regard to the Portuguese Authorities of Goa, the utmost that can be expected of me is, to shew that their proceedings, extraordinary as it may appear, will admit of being accounted for from intelligible motives. That they should for one moment have entertained a serious idea of carrying into effect the schemes of their native ally, or even of attempting such an object deliberately, it would be monstrous to believe. Very much less than this, however, might lead them to give into those schemes ostensibly, and to foment the feelings from which they sprang. The Viceroy of Goa having come out by the appointment of Don Miguel, and aware of the disfavour with which, at one time at least, that Prince was regarded by the British Government and people, and not knowing that, amidst the fluctuations of European politics, some combination of alliances might not place England in a state of actual hostility with his patron, might not think it inexpedient to embrace any self-offered opportunity of sowing the seeds of disturbance under the foundations of the British power in the East. Hurry Punt Fatuck in his evidence states rather a curious communication made to him by Nago, for the very purpose of explaining the policy of the Goa Government in entering into the intrigue. Speaking of Don Miguel, Nago said: “As there existed hostile feelings between the British Government and himself from times past, he killed the British Ambassador, and issued orders to Goa and Demau to the effect: “Should any of the great inland princes and chiefs make any negotiation, it should be entertained, and a reference made here. It is of importance to us to establish an authority over the interior.” I do not think it impossible that instructions resembling these should have come out from Portugal, though I do not believe that the most daring projector in that country ever really contemplated the establishment of the Portuguese authority over the possessions or dependencies of British India.

90. When once, however, the secret connexion with Sattara was formed motives, other than political, might very possibly maintain, and even strengthen it. Large disbursements in money and presents were made by the Raja for the benefit of his Goa friends, and these solid benefits in hand might induce them to listen favourably to promises of future advantage which they knew to be utterly visionary. This supposition is, I admit, not very honourable to the Portuguese party; but, in the discharge of a public duty, I must speak without respect of persons. Nor is it necessary to apply the supposition to the Viceroy himself. His own motives might be pure, while he yielded to the suggestions of attendants whose influence the Sattara Government had secured by feeding their cupidity.

91. On this topic, however, I have to repeat, that I pretend not, nor am called on, to divine the real views of the several parties in this extraordinary intrigue. It is enough for me to shew that their conduct, however remarkable, is explicable on received principles, and according to the motives by which human action is known to be but too commonly governed.

92. I proceed with the summaries of evidence. The second (AA. 2.) contains the proofs that salaries were assigned to Nago Deorao and the other principal agents employed in the intrigue, and that the amount was paid by the banker, Teejceram. The time when these salaries were granted is fixed by most of the witnesses at or about the period when the medical officer, Herculano, was sent to Sattara, and his mission is clearly proved to have taken place in June 1831. Discrepancies exist in the statements of the witnesses with regard to the amount of the salaries in the aggregate.

SATTARA
PAPERS.Minute
by the Governor.
5 May 1838.

gate, as well as the particular amount assigned to each individual. The fact, however, of salaries having been assigned, and of the funds to pay them having indirectly proceeded from the Raja, seems to me clearly proved; but in what manner they were assigned is not so distinctly established, although it may be inferred that the arrangement was concluded by Nago Deorao, in personal communication with the Raja. Be this as it may, no fewer than four of the persons to whom the salaries were granted have positively deposed to the fact, namely, Hurry Punt Fatuck, Balkoba Kelkur, Narrain Bhutt Chitney, and Morapunt Josee, and their testimony is confirmed by that of other witnesses.

93. In the third summary (AA. 3.), is contained the evidence shewing that the expenses of Nago Deorao and his party were defrayed by the Raja of Sattara; that a part of the funds for this purpose was fictitiously entered in the books of the banker, Teejeeram; and that, on various occasions, valuable presents were made by the Raja, or on his behalf, to Don Manoel, the Viceroy of Goa, and to Nago Deorao and his associates.

94. The evidence on this most essential point is of the most convincing nature, and it decisively establishes, as I think, the undermentioned transactions. First, That large sums of money were deposited with the banker, Teejeeram, on account of the Goa intrigues; that these sums were principally credited to Pandoba Waced, the third son of Nago Deorao, at that time quite a child, and the fictitious names of "Soopajee" and "Doordajee" are intended for Rowlojee Naik Khaskur, the Jemadar of horse in the service of the Raja, from whom a considerable portion of the sums entered in those names was in fact received.

This is proved by the bankers themselves, by Hurry Punt Fatuck, Narrain Bhutt Chitney, and Morapunt Josee, who declare that they themselves brought the money from Rowlojee Naik, and by Govind Row Dewan. The transactions are also verified, in a remarkable manner, by the extracts from the bankers' books, which, as all will admit, constitute evidence of the most trustworthy description. They shew that the total amount disbursed was about Rupees 36,000 during eight years, the largest amount being expended in the two last years 1834-35 and 1835-36, or Rupees 8,427,2 and Rupees 11,626 respectively.

95. Secondly, That the persons by whom the money was deposited were in poor and straitened circumstances, which proves that the money could not have belonged to themselves, but must have been obtained elsewhere. Of this a remarkable instance, to which I have already adverted, is mentioned by Govind Row Dewan. He states that all of a sudden Narrain Bhutt Chitney became apparently rich, wore fine clothes, and was seen to be the associate of the Senaputtee, insomuch that he was sued in the Adawlut by the owner of the house in which he resided, under suspicion of his having discovered and possessed himself of treasure concealed by the landlord's ancestors.

96. Thirdly, That the amount entered in the bankers' books does not constitute the whole of the Raja's outlay in forwarding his views at Goa.

This is stated by Hurry Punt Fatuck and by other witnesses, and is proved as to various instances (particularly on the occasion of Herculano's mission) in which the Raja himself, or by his agents, distributed money and presents among the persons employed on his behalf, without the intervention of any third party.

97. Fourthly, That in 1828-9 presents of value were made by Nago Deorao, on the Raja's behalf, to the Governor of Goa.

This is proved by Raojee Kotenees, by Balkoba Kelkur, and by Hurry Punt Fatuck, who, although not present, derived his information from his son, Nana Fatuck, who accompanied Nago to Goa on the occasion. They appear to have been made on Nago's introductory visit to the Governor. Raojee Kotenees states that they were worth about Rupees 1,100; Balkoba Kelkur, about Rupees 2,000.

98. Fifthly

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Governor,
5 May 1838.

98. Fifthly, That, about the same time, a horse of the value of Rupees 450 was presented to the Governor.

This is proved by Raojee Kotenees, Balkoba Kelkur (who states where the horse was purchased), and Morapunt Josee, and their evidence is corroborated by Aojee and Pattoo, two of Nago's servants.

99. Sixthly, That presents were made by Nago to the Moordomo, or steward, of the Viceroy, where he was introduced by Herculano.

This chiefly rests on the evidence of Raojee Kotenees; some of the servants of Nago likewise deposing to a horse having been presented.

100. Seventhly, That, in June 1831, expensive presents were made by the Raja himself, in person, to Herculano and to Nago and his associates.

Almost all the witnesses deposed to this highly important fact, namely, Teejeeram, Dajecba Waeed, Hurry Punt Fatuck, Balkoba Kelkur, Raojee Kotenees, Morapunt Josee, Wassodeo Shastri, and Narrain Bhutt Chitney; and their evidence is corroborated, in a most remarkable manner, in the bankers' books, the value of the presents given to Hurry Punt Fatuck, his son Nana Fatuck, Narrain Bhutt Chitney, and Nago Deorao, being in the books credited to those persons respectively.

101. Eighthly, That, in December 1832, the sum of Rupees 2,500 was paid by the Senaputtee to Balkoba Kelkur and Morapunt Josee, on Nago Deorao's account, to enable him to discharge a debt he had incurred.

This is proved in the bankers' books, and by the evidence of the two persons who received the money, and by that of Narrain Bhutt Chitney, who was present when it was paid, and the circumstances attending the gift are very minutely and consistently narrated.

102. Ninthly, That, in 1835, a sum of money was granted by the Raja to Raojee Kotenees, to enable him to defray the expenses of his daughter's wedding.

A slight discrepancy exists as to the amount of this gift in the statements of the witnesses, it being variously stated at 1,500, 1,700, and 1,800 rupees. That a largess, however, was bestowed, is deposed to by Raojee Kotenees himself, and by Hurry Punt Fatuck, Balkoba, and Morapunt Josee.

103. Tenthly, That presents were made to Don Manoel, Governor of Goa, in September 1835, on the occasion of the mission, on the part of the Raja, of a person named Mahdeo Row Sirkey.

This is deposed to by Raojee Kotenees, Balkoba Kelkur, and Narrain Bhutt Chitney, who were all more or less concerned in the mission alluded to.

104. Eleventhly, That a diamond ring was given by the Raja for the purpose of being presented to Don Manoel on his departure for Europe; but that, on Raojee Kotenees observing, at a personal conference with the Raja, that it was not of sufficient value for such a purpose, the Kotenees was instructed to retain it for himself.

This transaction is proved by Teejeeram, Dajecba Waeed, by Hurry Punt Fatuck, by Narrain Bhutt Chitney, and lastly, by Raojee Kotenees himself.

105. Twelfthly, That, in 1835-36, Nago Deorao received about Rupees 8,000, as some of the witnesses state, on account of parting presents to be made to Don Manoel; or, as others state, to defray the expenses of sending with the Governor an agent, on the Raja's behalf, to Europe.

This transaction is deposed to by no fewer than ten witnesses, namely, by the bankers Teejeeram and Bhugwan, by Hurry Punt Fatuck, Raojee Kotenees, Balkoba Kelkur, Morapunt Josee, Kesow Bucheerow, Dajecba Waeed, and by two of Nago Deorao's servants, Sukhojee and Hybuttee. The above sum is stated to have been expended in defraying some of Nago's expenses at Sattara, in cloths which he intended to take with him to Goa, and in purchasing hoondees from Teejeeram for Rupees 4,000. Whilst on his journey to Goa, one of the bullocks laden with his baggage

SATTARA
PAPERS.Minute
by the Governor
5 May 1838.

was plundered, and a part of the cloths and the hoondees were carried off, and duplicates of the latter were obtained in January or February 1836. There is, at first sight, a slight confusion in the statements of the witnesses with regard to the person to whom these duplicates were given; this, however, is satisfactorily accounted for, in my mind, by the circumstance that both persons named by them were really sent by Nago to obtain duplicates. Dajeeba Waeed was sent in the first instance, but Teejeeram refused them to him; then Balkoba Kelkur was sent on the same errand, and to him the duplicates were entrusted; and these circumstances are confirmed, in part, by a letter addressed to Nago Deorao on the subject by Teejeeram. On the whole, I am of opinion that there is no part of these proceedings so clearly proved as the receipt by Nago of a large sum of money, towards the end of 1835, for the purposes of the Goa intrigue, though it is not clearly shewn how the money was finally disposed of, or that it ever reached the Governor of Goa, or that it was expended in the manner originally intended. The robbery committed on Nago, however, may perhaps help to account for this circumstance.

106. Thirteenthly, That, in July 1836, Rupees 960 were paid by the Senaputtee to Raojee Kotenees and Narrain Bhutt Chithey.

This rests on the evidence of Raojee Kotenees, corroborated, but not until he was cross-examined on the point, by Narrain Bhutt Chithey. It is, however, in some degree confirmed by the proved fact (of which more hereafter) that the purpose for which it was given, namely, to defray the expenses of the parties on a proposed journey to Demaun to meet Herculano, was really contemplated.

107. Fourteenthly, That, in addition to the specific instances above noticed, presents in cash and in-kind were bestowed by the Raja, the Senaputtee, and Dinkur Row, at the different meetings which took place between them and the agents employed, and on other occasions of minor importance.

108. The summary (AA. 4.) contains evidence to shew that certain articles were sent as presents from Goa, and how they were disposed of.

I do not attach much importance to this branch of the inquiry; for the articles alluded to were few and of inconsiderable value, and it may even be doubted whether the chief of them were not articles commissioned by Govind Row Dewan, although Raojee Kotenees afterwards refused to accept payment for them. It is not established that any of the articles reached the Raja; for we cannot trust Dajeeba Waeed's unsupported testimony, founded on hearsay, that two of the peacock-feather fans were presented to his Highness.

109. The summary (AA. 5.) relates to Nago Deorao's intercourse with the Raja of Sattara, and the different interviews and conferences which occurred between them.

From the evidence of some of the other agents employed, and of some of the servants of Nago himself, I think it fully proved that an intercourse existed between that person and the Raja, and that various interviews between them took place. It is obvious that Nago, though he seems to have been previously known to the Raja, was first recommended to his service and confidence by the Swamee of Sunkeshwur, about the time of the celebrated Jatra held at Nassick in 1825. It is not clearly elicited what was the nature of the authority vested in Nago; but his relation, Dajeeba, says that he became the Vakeel between the Goakur and the Maharaj, and agreements were concluded. In particular, one of Nago's interviews with the Raja, in April 1835, is fully proved by several persons who were present and took part in the conferences. The witnesses nearly agree in the object of this meeting, which took place apparently in consequence of the news that Don Manoel was about to leave India. Nago had proceeded to meet the Governor, then at Vingorla, and on his return to Sattara the interview took place, when he delivered a letter which he had obtained from the Governor. This visit is proved by Hurry Punt Fatuck and Raojee Kotenees, who were present,

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Governor,
5 May 1838.

and their testimony is confirmed by Narrain Bhutt Chitney, Dajeeba Waced, and Balkoba Kelkur, who states that, on the occasion, he went with Nago as far as Teejeeram's shop. All these witnesses concur generally in stating who were present at the interview. Hurry Punt Fatuck specifies five distinct occasions when Nago visited the Raja in furtherance of the Goa intrigues. The servants of Nago, named Sunjeewun, Aojee, Venkappa, Pattoo Hybuttee, and Khundoo, also depose to their master's having visited the Raja on various occasions, and for the most part at night; and Govind Row Dewan states that, on one occasion, he went as usual to the Raja's palace at night and was denied admittance, and that, when he was about to retire, he met a party proceeding to visit the Raja, who, he was afterwards informed by Narrain Bhutt Chitney, were some of the persons engaged in the Goa affair. This branch of my minute will be further illustrated by those which follow.

110. The summary (AA. 6.) relates to Nago Deorao's intercourse with Goa, and his various interviews with the Governor Don Manoel. The evidence on this head has been derived, first, from six of the servants of Nago who were in attendance on him during his numerous visits to Goa; and secondly, from Raojee Kotenees and others of the party who accompanied him.

111. The servant Sunjeewun deposes to various visits made by Nago to Goa, and states that the first occurred ten years ago. Aojee accompanied Nago to Araba, and was with him for six months in the Goa district. They then returned to Sattara, and again came to Araba. Nago visited Don Manoel, and the servant went with him, as he tended his horse. Venkappa states, that after the Swamee had introduced Nago to the Raja of Sattara, he proceeded with Nago to Araba and Goa. Nago visited the Raja at Goa, remaining a few days at Rybunder. In May or June 1833, Nago having visited Sunkeshwur came again to Araba; from thence he used to visit Don Manoel and Herculan. He afterwards went to Sattara, and again returned to Araba. Hybuttee was with Nago at Rybunder, and went with him on his first visit to the Governor; he remained below, and Nago and his party went up stairs. He heard of two other occasions of Nago having visited the Governor. Pattoo went with Nago to Goa and accompanied him on a visit to the Governor. Nago also visited Erculan. This last witness also refers to other visits to the Governor, one of which occurred after Erculan's mission to Sattara, when he accompanied him to the door. Nago generally went alone, and was met by the Raja, Kotenees, and Erculan. Khundojee accompanied him to Korgaon and Araba, from whence, with Balkoba Kelkur and Morapunt Josee, he proceeded to Rybunder. He used to accompany him to the Governor's palace. On one or two occasions Raojee Kotenees was with him; Dajeeba once, and Morapunt Josee likewise. Dajeeba Waced met Nago at Goa in November 1832 and in April 1834. In January 1835, he went with him to the Governor, whom he frequently visited. Nago also visited the Governor when he was residing at Vingorla, after having been superseded by the "Perea Christian from Portugal," and obtained a letter from him, which he brought to Sattara in April 1835. Kesow Bucheerow was with Nago at Araba and Rybunder. Morapunt Josee accompanied Nago to Araba and Rybunder after Erculan's mission; Nago with Raojee Kotenees visited Don Manoel; some of the party accompanied him, but remained in the room of the Major-Domo. Narrain Bhutt Chitney accompanied Nana Fatuck to Araba towards the end of 1829, and lodged with Raojee Kotenees, proceeded to Goa, and resided for six weeks with Nago Deorao. Nago used to visit the Governor at Panjum. In 1833-4 he was deputed to Goa by the Raja of Sattara, to ascertain how affairs were progressing, and remained there two months, when Nago directed him to return and inform the Raja that the business would be soon effected, which he did accordingly. Raojee Kotenees thus describes the mode in which Nago's visits to the Governor were effected. He first went to the Moordomo, and delivered to him any letters he had, and asked for an audience. The Moordomo then informed the Governor; and, if leave was granted, conducted Nago into the Governor's writing-room, when the Governor exchanged compliments with the Raja. This witness states that

SATTARA
PAPERS.Minute
by the Governor,
5 May 1838.

that he accompanied Nago to the Governor four or five times, face to face. On his first visit to Goa, Nago only visited Erculan. On his second, he came with Nana Fatuck, and after having been acknowledged by the Swamee as his confidential agent, was conducted to Rybunder, introduced by Erculan to the Major-Domo, and a few days after to the Viceroy. Nago said he had come to communicate the affair of the Swamee and of the Raja of Sattara; and the Viceroy ordered him to commit what he had to propose in writing. Nago afterwards explained that 25,000 Europeans were required, and they should be paid for and subsidized. After Erculan's mission, Nago came and resided at Rybunder. The mission of Nana Fatuck to Goa, in company with Nago, is confirmed by the evidence of his father, Hurry Punt Fatuck.

112. The intercourse which took place between Nago Deorao and Don Manoel is thus most clearly proved, though our information of what occurred at the numerous meetings held between them is scanty and deficient. This, however, is not of much moment, because the objects of these meetings are fully developed by the papers of Nago that have come into our possession. Raojee Kotenees is the only one of the witnesses who could afford good information of what occurred at these interviews; but I have no doubt, for the reason assigned by Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans, that he has suppressed much of his knowledge on the subject.

113. I will only add, that with regard to the general fact of the visits of Nago to Goa, and of his having been in the pay of the Raja of Sattara, the evidence of Morapunt Josee before Mr. Spooner at Rutnagchery is worthy of notice. The witness did not, indeed, disclose so much on that occasion as he afterwards disclosed, when examined by Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans at Sattara; but I think it important to mark his evidence in the former case, because it adds to the information derived from sources independent of the Sattara inquiry. "Nago Deorao," he says, "is my brother-in-law. He " was in the habit of visiting the Goa territories, and acted as the agent of " the Sunker Acharya. In January 1836 I accompanied him to Araba, *via* " Raughat, when a robbery occurred (the particulars of which witness details). " Nago was in affluent circumstances. He got some money from Sattara, " from Teejeeram, through whom, I heard, it was remitted by his Highness " the Raja of Sattara: he also got some from the Swamee." (See Mr. Spooner's Letter to Government, dated the 6th October 1837.)

114. The summary (AA. 7.) exclusively relates to the evidence which has been obtained in elucidation of the proceedings of Raojee Kotenees, of the village of Araba. Mr. Willoughby has properly devoted a separate summary to this person, not only on account of the conspicuous part which he took in the Goa intrigues, but likewise because his proceedings deeply implicate the Raja of Sattara.

115. Raojee Kotenees himself states, that he went with Nago Deorao four or five times to visit the Governor of Goa, face to face, and that he had five different interviews at night with the Raja, namely:

1st. When Erculan was introduced, on which occasion a letter was delivered to the Raja. Seven persons were present at this interview; namely, the Raja, the Senaputtee, Dinkur Row, Rowlojee Naik, Hurry Punt Fatuck, Erculan, and himself.

2d. On another occasion, when Nago Deorao and all the above persons were present, except Erculan.

3d. On a third occasion, when the Raja, Rowlojee Naik, Hurry Punt, Dinkur Row, and Narrain Bhutt were present. These two interviews occurred on his second visit to Sattara.

4th. In 1836, at the house of Dinkur Row, when the Raja, Dinkur Row, and Rowlojee Naik were present.

5th. In the same year, at the Raja's palace, when the Raja, the Senaputtee, Dinkur Row, Rowlojee Naik, Hurry Punt, and Narrain Bhutt were present.

The chief object of the two last interviews was evidently to obtain money, Nago Deorao having left Sattara with a large sum, without making arrangement

SATTARA
PAPERS.
Minute
by the Governor.
5 May 1838.

ment for payment to Raojee of what he considered due for his services. He, on this occasion, remained at Sattara twenty days, during which he visited the houses of Govind Row Dewan and the Senaputtee. To the fifth of the above interviews he was conducted by Rowlojee Naik, and the Raja inquired whether the Governor of Goa had departed, and for Nago and Erculan. Raojee Kotenees further explains how he first became acquainted with Nago, his being retained to aid him in his project at Goa, on a salary of Rupees 600 per annum, and Nago's coming to Goa in company with Nana Fatuck, and delivering a letter in a bag to Don Manoel.

116. The above evidence is strongly supported by that of other witnesses. The servant, Pattoo, deposes that he himself accompanied Raojee to Sattara when Erculan proceeded to that place; and Seekhojee, another servant, states that Raojee was at Sattara in company with Nago. The bankers, Teejeeram and Bhugwan, also state that he came to Sattara in July 1836; and Govind Row Dewan, that he came there two or three times, and on one occasion dined with him at his house. Balkoba Kelkur confirms the account of the two last meetings with the Raja, and states that he received Rupees 1,500 for his daughter's marriage, and a diamond ring. Hurry Punt Fatuck deposes that Raojee twice visited the Senaputtee, and that he himself was present at the third interview with the Raja, on which occasion Raojee informed the Raja that "no answer to the *yads* had come from Portugal." He likewise alludes to the fourth interview at the house of Dinkur Row. Lastly, Narrain Bhutt Chitney deposes to an interview in March 1835, and to one in April, when Raojee obtained Rupees 1,500, on which occasion he communicated to the Raja some instructions from Don Manoel which had been committed to writing. This witness accompanied Raojee from Goa to Sattara in July 1836, and confirms the fact of the two meetings with the Raja about that time, one being held at Dinkur Row's and the other at the palace, at which he himself was present. I do not think that, supported by such evidence, the slightest doubt can be entertained of the nature of the communications held by Raojee Kotenees with the Raja; and I shall only further observe, that the two last meetings between the parties happened about the very time when, through other agents, the Raja was engaged in tampering with the Native officers of the 23d Regiment.

117. The summary (AA. 8.) relates to what may be regarded as the most important of all the events connected with the Goa intrigue, namely, the mission of a Portuguese, named Herculano, from Goa to Sattara in June 1831, and his introduction at night to the Raja.

118. The accounts of this mission most to be relied on are contained in the depositions of Hurry Punt Fatuck and Raojee Kotenees, both of whom were actually present at the interview between the Raja and the emissary. The first states that the mission originated when his son, Nana Fatuck, went to Goa with Nago Deorao. The selection of Herculano for the purpose was very natural, because it was this person who first introduced Nago Deorao to the Governor of Goa. It was to remove the suspicions respecting the truth of Nago's pretensions which this person and Raojee entertained, that the mission was undertaken. Nana Fatuck came to Sattara and communicated these suspicions to his father, who communicated them to the Raja, who, without any hesitation, appears to have consented to the mission. Herculano and Raojee were accordingly conducted to Sattara, the former putting up in a garden belonging to the Raja, called Kurunja, the latter in the house of Hurry Punt. In the same night Rowlojee Naik conducted Herculano, Raojee Kotenees, and Hurry Punt Fatuck (the deponent) to the palace, where they had an interview with the Raja, the Senaputtee and Dinkur Row being present. Herculano delivered a letter from the Governor, intimating that, according to invitation, he had been deputed, and Raojee Kotenees inquired, "Is Nago Deorao of the Sirkar's?" to which the Raja replied, "He is ours: whatever he may have spoken was spoken by ourselves, and whatever money he may have promised was promised by ourselves. In what time will our business be effected?" Herculano replied, "Within three years." After this the rest were dismissed.

with

with valuable presents.* Nago Deorao was not present at the interview, but arrived at Sattara a few days afterwards.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Governor.
5 May 1838.

119. Raojee Kotenees corroborates the above statement in most particulars. He says, that Nago himself proposed the mission to dispel the suspicion above alluded to; that at Herculano's request he accompanied him to Sattara; describes how the different persons concerned travelled and arrived at Sattara. Herculano remained outside the town, but he (Raojee) put up at Hurry Punt's house. Rowlojee Naik conducted the party to the palace. His account of the persons present at the interview, of the conversation which occurred, and of their being dismissed with presents, does not materially vary from the preceding statement. Finally, he states, that Nago was not himself present, but that he met him at Kodawly, and that Nago met Herculano at Meeruj shortly afterwards.

120. The testimony of Narrain Bhutt Chithey is next in importance. This person was with Nana Fatuck and Nago Deorao at Goa when the mission was proposed. He corroborates the two preceding witnesses in regard to the cause of the mission. He accompanied Nana Fatuck to Sattara when he went and obtained the Raja's assent to the mission. He states, that when Nana Fatuck went to conduct the mission to Sattara, he was informed that Herculano was not there, but that he would be sent when he returned; which statement, as I shall hereafter shew, is confirmed by the documentary evidence in this case. He confirms the statement, that whilst the mission was on its way to Sattara, the deponent met it at Pallee; and also, that Raojee Kotenees put up at Hurry Punt's, and Herculano at Kurunja. On the night of his arrival, Herculano came to Hurry Punt's house, when Rowlojee Naik came and conducted the mission to the palace. He states, that he did not go himself; but that Hurry Punt informed him that Herculano had delivered a letter, and that presents had been given by the Raja, and among them a gold bangle for him (the deponent), the value of which is credited in Teejeeram's accounts, under date the 19th June 1831. Finally, he states, that Herculano left Sattara the next day, Raojee Kotenees four or five days after, and that Nago Deorao arrived at Sattara at the end of June, and put up with Hurry Punt.

121. Balkoba Kelkur corroborates many of the above particulars, and states, that he was at Goa when the mission set out in three parties by three different roads, he (the deponent) accompanying Nago. He further states, that Herculano left Kurunja, where he had put up, in anger, and that he was sent after him, and brought him back. He corroborates the fact of the party having met at Hurry Punt's house, and of their being conducted by Rowlojee Naik to the palace. He remained behind, but saw the party depart and return, Hurry Punt bringing with him some gold chains, which he said had been given him by the Raja. This witness, in the first instance, stated that Nago Deorao was of the party; but afterwards corrected himself, and said, that Nago did not arrive until the day after the interview had taken place. To what cause it was owing that Nago, who had set out with this witness from Goa, did not reach Sattara at the same time, is not explained. I do not, however, think the circumstances material. Nago might easily stop for a night at Renavee, Kodawly, or elsewhere; and as the introduction of Herculan to the Raja was precipitated by the impatience of the former, the absence of Nago on the occasion is not very surprising.

122. The evidence of Dajeeba Waeed on this point is of little value; for, as he had not, at the time of the mission, joined actively in the plots, he could speak only from hearsay. He states, that the mission originated with the Raja, after the *yad* of stipulations had been framed, and that the Raja visited Herculano previously to the interview at the palace. The same disqualification applies to the evidence of Wassodeo Shastry, who does not even know the name of Herculano, but states, from hearsay, that a person who was called Moosafit came from Goa to Sattara, and put up in the Kurunjabagh. The

witnesses

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Governor,
5 May 1838.

witnesses, Morapunt Josee and Kasee Punt Bunderay, merely allude to the mission ; the latter adding that presents were given.

123. No fewer than seven of Nago's servants allude to the mission, and their evidence I regard as important ; for they can have no object in alluding to the event if it had not really occurred.

Sunjeevun states, that he had heard that Irkool Christian, Raojee Kotenees, and Nago, had come from Goa to Sattara on the part of the Governor.

Aojee gives a description of Irkool, and states that, after the meeting with the Raja, Nago met him at Meeruj.

Venkuppa, that Nago brought Irkool to Sattara, although they did not come by the same route ; that Irkool remained at Sattara one night, and afterwards met Nago at Meeruj.

Sukhojee, that he heard from his fellow-servants of the coming of Irkool to Sattara, and of the meeting at Meeruj.

Hybuttee gives a description of Irkool, and deposes to the meeting at Meeruj.

Pattoo says, that Irkool came in a dooly with twelve Goa bearers, lodged at night in the veranda of Hurry Punt's house. He and Nago and others went out at night, but he does not know where ; they returned at dawn. Raojee Kotenees came to Sattara on the same occasion ; saw Irkool at Hurry Punt's house with his own eyes. Nago afterwards met him at Meeruj. Deponent accompanied Raojee Kotenees from Goa. Corrects himself, and states that Nago arrived three or four days after Irkool.

Teejecram, the banker, also deposes to the fact of Herculano's mission, and states that he travelled in a dooly having Christian bearers.

124. Such is the nature of the evidence by which the mission of Herculano is supported. I have been unable to detect any thing like the appearance of concert among the witnesses : they all agree in essential points, although they differ slightly in details. I feel no doubt that even Wassodeo Shastry refers to the same mission as the other witnesses. He speaks, however, from hearsay merely, and " Moosafit " may have been a term of general application to foreigners, or it may be the corruption of the name of some Portuguese in the service of the Peishwa or of Bapoo Gokla. With regard to the contradiction among the witnesses in respect to Deorao, as connected with this mission, it may easily, I think, be accounted for. The statement of Raojee Kotenees, corroborated by those of Hurry Punt Fatuck, and Narrain Bhutt Chitney, that Nago was not present but arrived a very few days afterwards, is no doubt correct. Balkoba Kelkur himself corrected the mistake, and Dajeeba Waed did not become one of the Mundullees, or party, until long after the mission. The mistake is, however, more apparent than real. It was one very likely to occur, moreover ; for it is clearly established that Nago left Goa with the mission, that he was with Raojee on the road when he was on the journey to Sattara, that Raojee again met him after the interview at Kodawly, a village close to Sattara, and that they again met at Meeruj, Herculano being present. It was this, we may suppose, which occasioned confusion in the minds of some of the witnesses ; and in such a mass of evidence, extending over a period of so many years, it is matter of surprise that contradictions are not more frequently to be detected.

125. The summary (AA.9.) relates to an event which is almost of equal importance as the one just disposed of, namely, the mission to Goa, on the part of the Raja, of a person named Mahdeo Row Sirkey, and his introduction to Don Manoel, in September 1835. This mission is, I think, clearly established, though I do not think that the witnesses have fairly spoken out regarding what occurred at the interview with Don Manoel. It occurred at Panjum, after the Governor had relanded from the ship in which he had embarked at Vingorla. Mahdeo Row Sirkey had just entered into the service of the Raja, to whom, according to one of the witnesses, he was related. He died a short time after his mission to Goa.

SATTARA
PAPERS.Minute
by the Governo
5 May 1838.

126. Hurry Punt Fatuck states, that the Raja directed him to effect the introduction, and he proposed to send Narrain Bhutt Chitney on this duty, but Narrain fell sick, and could not go. The Sirkey proceeded to Waree, and was met by Nago Deorao and Raojee Kotenees. Morapunt Josee was sent for the Sirkey, who was taken to Rybunder, and introduced to Don Manoel by Nago, Raojee Kotenees, and Erculan. Narrain Bhutt Chitney confirms the preceding witness as to the share which he (the Chitney) took in the transaction, and adds, that, after the interview, Nago returned to Sattara, and obtained the sum of 8,000 rupees, alluded to in another part of this minute. Raojee Kotenees, after alluding to Don Manoel's embarkation at Vingorla and his subsequent return to Panjum, states, that in September 1835, Nago and himself proceeded to Rybunder, taking with them a gope, a chundurbur, a pair of shawls, and other cloths, which had been received from Rowlojee Naik. With these he conducted the Sirkey to Rybunder, and introduced him to the Major-Domo, as a relation of the Raja, observing, "As you are proceeding to Portugal, the friendship should not be forgotten; he has been deputed to mention this." The Sirkey was then taken up stairs and introduced to Don Manoel, who said, that he intended to embark in about two months, and sent his best salaams. It is very probable that the Kotenees was present at the interview; but he states that he remained in the steward's room, and learned from Nago what had taken place.

127. Morapunt Josee confirms the preceding witnesses, as to the fact of his having been sent to Waree to conduct the Sirkey to Rybunder, and the subsequent introduction of the Sirkey to Don Manoel at Panjum. The deponent remained in the Major-Domo's room, the rest with Gopal Row, interpreter, going up stairs, the Major-Domo having preceded them.

128. Balkoba Kelkur states, that the Sirkey arrived at Rybunder on the 2d September 1835, on the part of the Maharaj; Morapunt Josee had been sent to call him. In company with Nago Deorao and Raojee Kotenees he was introduced to Don Manoel, to whom presents were made.

129. Dajeeba Waced states, that in April 1835, Nago brought and delivered a letter to the Raja from Don Manoel. After the Governor had embarked at Vingorla, and had relanded at Panjum, Nago brought a letter from him to the Sirkey, who was taken to Rybunder, and introduced to the Governor, to whom presents were given. In October or November 1835, Nago brought a letter to the Raja from Don Manoel regarding the Sirkey's mission, and obtained 8,000 rupees, "as a parting present from Don Manoel" and for other expenses.

130. Govind Row Dewan states, that the Sirkey was in the Raja's service; that about three years ago he left Sattara for Waree, when it was reported, "He is going to Goa on the part of the Maharaj." The witness questioned Narrain Bhutt Chitney, who informed him that such was the case, and that the Sirkey was deputed to inquire whether what Nago and others reported were true or false.

131. From the above detail it will, I think, be admitted that, though some slight variations occur in the evidence, it is in general consistent and conclusive, and establishes the fact, that, as the representative of the Raja, Mahdeo Row Sirkey visited Goa, met Don Manoel, and made some presents to that person.

132. The next summary (AA. 10.), contains evidence regarding a design, on the part of the Raja, to send an agent with Don Manoel to Portugal.

133. Hurry Punt Fatuck, after having alluded to the mission of Mahdeo Row Sirkey, states, that Nago Deorao returned and informed the Raja, that the Governor of Goa wished an agent on his Highness's part to accompany him, and that then the business would be effected. On this account 8,000 rupees were given, and it was proposed to send Herculano.

134. Raojee Kotenees states, that in his interview with the Raja in March 1835, he was asked whether Erculan would go. He said that he did not know; but

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Governor,
5 May 1838.

but Nago answered in the affirmative. At another interview the Raja observed, "Now there is no business at Goa. When the Viceroy goes, Erculan will go, or some one else should be sent." The following day the witness met Nago at Kodawly, and told him to go and arrange quickly for sending a person. On the occasion of his interview with the Raja at Dinkur Row's house, his Highness again inquired if any one had been sent; and at his final interview at the palace, the Raja directed that Erculan should be sent with any companions of the Viceroy's who might have remained behind, provided he was inclined to go. The witness said, he would inform Erculan, who was then at Demaun; when Narrain Bhutt observed, that he intended to go to Demaun; and the Raja said, "Go, and send off Erculan." After this the Raja retired, and the Senaputtee then gave 300 rupees to deponent, and 650 to Narrain Bhutt, of which 500 were intended for Erculan.

135. Narrain Bhutt Chitney states, that he was informed by Hurry Punt, that the 8,000 rupees were paid to Nago "to meet the expenses of sending a person with Don Manoel to Portugal;" and confirms the account given by Raojee Kotenees of what occurred at the interview with the Raja when the sum of 950 rupees was bestowed; adding, that himself and Raojee went to Bombay with the intention of proceeding to Demaun and sending off Erculan, but that, on their arrival there, they wrote requesting him to meet them in Bombay, and received a reply asking them to come to Demaun.

136. The important circumstance mentioned by the last witness is proved in the documentary evidence; and I think it pretty clearly established, that at one time the Raja really did entertain the idea of deputing an agent to Portugal, though the measure was never carried into effect, among other reasons, perhaps, because the attempt on the fidelity of the Soobadars was detected.

137. Summary (AA. 11.) contains evidence to shew, that an epistolary correspondence was maintained between the Raja of Sattara and Don Manoel, Governor of Goa. This important branch of the inquiry will, of course, be more fully elucidated when I come to consider the documentary evidence: but it must be obvious, that if it can be proved that letters were interchanged between the parties, one link is supplied towards proof of the truth and authenticity of so many of such letters, purporting to be between the parties, as have come into our possession.

138. With regard to the letters purporting to have been addressed by the Raja to Don Manoel, it is proved in evidence that these were not invariably submitted for his Highness's approval, but that Nago prepared such drafts as he thought proper, sealed them, and delivered them as proceeding from his master. There is not a single instance proved of any letter having actually been written at Sattara with the cognizance of the Raja, and we are left to conjecture what was the nature of the powers delegated to Nago; were it not, therefore, for the abundant evidence obtained of the connection which existed between the Raja and Nago, and for the fact, clearly proved, that the Raja received letters from Don Manoel alluding to letters which the latter had received, purporting to proceed from the Raja, I should say that the correspondence of the Raja with Don Manoel would be doubtful, and that we might infer that the letters written in his name might not have been authorized on his part. The evidence on this head may be summed up as follows:

139. Dajeeba Waeed states, that previously to his becoming connected with these intrigues, Don Manoel wrote letters to the Raja, and that afterwards he saw two letters from the Governor, sealed in bags, the contents of which were unknown to him. These letters used to be accompanied by Mahratta translations prepared by "Sukharam Kasmutt Goakur, the Dhobhasee Chitnavees," put up with the Portuguese versions. Nago brought one of them from Vingorla in April 1835, and another in October or November 1835, regarding the mission of the Sirkey. Both were delivered to the Raja; and, on the last occasion, the witness went with Nago as far as the palace. Morapunt Josee states, that on one occasion Don Manoel gave a letter to Nago, which Ba-

SATTARA
PAPERS.Minute
by the Governor
5 May 1838.

lumbhut and himself brought to Sattara, and delivered to the Raja in the presence of several persons whom he names. It was in Portuguese and Mahratta, and was as follows :—" You sent out of friendship. There is much "pleasure after communicating with the Houzoor (Portugal). The matter "about continuing a constant friendly intercourse with you will be replied "to, according to the answer which may be received." He can state the contents, because he was near when the Maharaj read the Mahratta version of the letter. Hurry Punt Fatuck states, that at the interview between the Raja and Erculano, the latter delivered a letter from Don Manoel, intimating that Erculano had been sent according to invitation. It was in a bag and the Raja read it, one leaf being in Portuguese and the other in Mahratta. In 1835-6 Nago in his presence delivered to the Raja another letter from the Governor, and Nago informed him, that when he came to Sattara to ask how the articles of agreement were to be drawn up, he brought a letter. Raojee Kotences confirms the statement, that Erculan, on his introduction to the Raja, delivered a letter from Don Manoel.

140. Dajeeba Waced states, that he does not know of any letter sent by the Raja from Sattara to Goa. Nago was appointed his Highness's agent with full powers, and by the Raja's orders used to write letters and deliver them. In January 1835, Nago made the witness write one to Don Manoel, as if from the Raja, regarding the nuptials of Gojra Saheb, the Raja's daughter. Balkoba Kelkur states, that he heard, that whenever any letter was required to be written to the Governor, Nago wrote and attached the seal to it. Morapunt Josee states, that Nago himself wrote any letter or paper to be given to Don Manoel, and delivered it with the large and small seals (sicca and moortub) attached, and that he saw him do this four or five times. Raojee Kotences states, that, on his first introduction to the Governor, Nago delivered a letter in a bag, to which he received a reply. He then gives an instance, which clearly establishes that Nago prepared a letter himself, under circumstances, which did not admit of a reference to the Raja. He had shown to Herculano a letter which was disapproved of, and in two days he produced another, corresponding in tenor with what Herculano had suggested.

141. Besides the above, there is evidence to shew that a packet of a certain size, which is described, with two seals attached, was deposited with the father of the witness, Gopal Jeyram, in 1824-5, and which was delivered to Nago at Sunkeshwur in the following year, by a servant named Hybuttee. Gopal states, that his father informed him that this related to the plots at Goa; and the above is all the evidence which has been elicited on the subject. As I before observed, this branch of the inquiry will be further illustrated by the documentary evidence; and I shall only observe, that I consider it proved, that the Raja received letters from Don Manoel, but that, with regard to those addressed to the Viceroy, these were prepared at the discretion of Nago, under such general instructions as he may have received from his principal.

142. The twelfth and best summary (AA. 12.) contains evidence, shewing that the Goa intrigues were partially known to Colonels Briggs and Robertson, formerly Residents at Sattara. My colleagues will observe, that this fact has been acknowledged in one of the communications recently received from Dr. Milne on behalf of the Raja; I will only therefore state my reasons for deeming it of much importance.

143. 1st. It clearly establishes, that, as deposed to by the agents employed, these intrigues have occupied the Raja for many years. Colonel Briggs was appointed Resident at Sattara on the 11th February 1823, and resigned in February 1827; the intrigues must, therefore, have commenced before the latter date, which is exactly agreeable to the evidence. Colonel Robertson was appointed on the 5th April 1827 to succeed Colonel Briggs, and resigned his appointment on the 2d January 1833.

144. 2dly. It enhances the Raja's guilt in two ways.

First, because it proves that his insane projects were entertained at a time when, outwardly, the utmost cordiality existed between the two Governments,

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Governor,
5 May 1838.

Governments, and consequently, that his conduct is not palliated, or to be accounted for, by irritation felt in consequence of the discussions which afterwards arose respecting his Highness's claims over his Jagheerdars.

Secondly. Because it proves that he persevered in the intrigue in defiance of the friendly, and, I have no doubt, explicit warnings and admonitions of the Resident, some time towards the close of the year 1827.*

Thirdly. And this I conceive to be a most important reason; it removes any suspicion of the Goa case having now been got up against the Raja by some party at enmity with him, who has heard that his Highness lies under suspicion of treasonable plots against the British Government, and eagerly snatched at the opportunity of involving him in ruin.

145. I will only further observe, that I have learned on good authority, that the fact of some improper intercourse having been maintained by the Raja of Sattara with Goa, was known to Mr. William Simson, who was in charge of the Residency during the interval which intervened between the resignation of Colonel Briggs and the arrival of Colonel Robertson, and likewise to Dr. Bird, who was for several years surgeon to the Sattara Residency.

146. I now proceed to the third head into which I have divided my remarks on the oral evidence, *viz.* to shew that the testimony of most of the witnesses named under the first head is entitled to credit, not only from the impossibility, in the circumstances under which it was obtained, of concert and collusion among them, or from the absence of any adequate motive for the conspiracy which must have been entered into, if their testimony is false, but likewise because it is, in many instances, directly opposed to the interests and natural wishes of the witnessing parties.

147. Any one who weighs well the numerous and extraordinary coincidences which are to be found in the mass of evidence forwarded by Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens, must, in my opinion, be impressed with a perfect conviction of its general truth. The witnesses are too numerous, and composed of too many classes of society, to render it probable that a combination has been formed among them, for the purpose of giving false testimony. On essential points all the material witnesses agree, although with those variations to be expected from persons deposing to the same facts independently of one another. Various discrepancies, and even contradictions, are likewise to be found in their testimony. The chief of these I have already noticed, and they all can either be satisfactorily reconciled, or may fairly be attributed to the confusion of events and transactions embracing a period of at least twelve years. Far from thinking that these variations should be considered as affecting the general credibility of the witnesses, I should have deemed the absence of such variations a clear token of concert, and therefore open to the utmost distrust and suspicion.

148. On referring back to our records, it will be seen, that it was not until July 1837, that Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens, when prosecuting the inquiries which he had been directed to institute, consequently to the receipt by Government of the petition of Gijabacc, obtained the first clue to the detection of the intrigue at Goa. In a report dated the 12th August last, this able officer observed, "I have already obtained evidence to shew that "secret communications have been going on with Goa for years back, and "that these were only suspended on the death of the principal agent about "twelve months back." In illustration of the nature of this intercourse, the Acting Resident submitted the deposition of Dajeeba Waced (No. 7 of my list), and stated, that all persons implicated in the intrigue had left Sattara, with the exception of Rowlojee Naik, and the bankers Tecjeeram and his son Bhugwan. He added, that every exertion would be made to secure their attendance; but that, as some of them had concealed themselves, and others were

* Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens's letter of the 6th February 1838, paragraph G.

were at a distance, he feared that some time might elapse before the result of his investigation could be reported.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Governor
5 May 1838.

149. The following extracts from the evidence, List A of the Acting Resident's report, will shew how the witnesses were at that period scattered about the country.

Wassodeo Shastry (No. 11 of my list), who was examined on the 20th July 1837, stated, that at that time "Hurry Punt Fatuck was at Poona, "Narrain Bhutt Chitney at Alundee, Balkoba Kelkur at Sawunt Warree, "Morapunt Josee at Tasgdon near Meeruj, and Dajeeba Waced at "Wae."

Dajeeba Waced (No. 7 of my list), who was first examined on the 7th August 1837, stated, that at that time "Irkool was at Demaun, "Raojee Kotenees at Bombay in the house of Soonder Bawajee, Hurry "Punt Fatuck at Poona, Teejeeram and his son at Sattara, Morapunt "Josee at Waree, Balumbhut Moongeykur at Korgaon in the Goa "district, Balkoba Kelkur at Waree, Narrain Bhutt Chitney at Poona, "and that, of the servants who were with Nago Deorao, and of the "attendants who used to go about with him, some were at Renavee, "some at Waree, and some at Hutnoor, under Sunkeshwur."

150. It was on the above information that, by the zeal and diligence of the Acting Resident, the principal persons implicated were traced out and apprehended, under such circumstances as prevented the possibility of a general combination among them; and, even at the risk of seeming tedious, I will now briefly allude to the circumstances in question, as chiefly gained from the witnesses themselves.

151. The order in which the evidence was recorded will be seen on reference to list A. of Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens's report, in which it is arranged according to the dates on which the persons were produced before that officer, and not according to the subject, or the importance, of the testimony of each witness. The first deposition was taken on the 20th July 1837, the last on the 10th November following, and it will be remarked, that the most important evidence was obtained towards the termination of the inquiry. (*Vide* Nos. 21, 22, 25, and 26 of the list quoted.)

152. The principal witnesses are Dajeeba Waced, Balkoba Kelkur, Morapunt Josee, Narrain Bhutt Chitney, Hurry Punt Fatuck, Raojee Kotenees, and the banker Teejeeram, and his son Bhugwandoss.

153. The first was the nephew of Nago Deorao, and was his almost constant companion during the last three years of his life, and was with him when he died. He was brought, for the purpose of being examined, from Wace, a town about twenty miles from Sattara, having no knowledge of what was going on, or for what purpose he was summoned. The Acting Resident had not even knowledge of the information which he ultimately afforded. At first he was a little alarmed, but said he would tell all if he were supported. He was simply promised protection, and he then drew up a long and minute detail of all his uncle's proceedings. He is reported to be clever and intelligent, and has never been under any other restraint than that of holding no communication with the town's people.

154. The second was Nago Deorao's brother-in-law, and it was from him that we shall hereafter see that Nago's papers and seals were obtained. This person was brought from the village of Araba, in the Goa territory, by Dajeeba Waced and a Residency Peon named Ballaram, deputed for the purpose by the Acting Resident. For an account of his apprehension, I beg to refer to the depositions of those persons (Nos. 23 and 24, list A). In his own evidence Balkoba says, "Dajeeba Waced and Ballaram Chuprassee came to Malpa after "visiting Waree. My domestic, Appajee, came from Waree, and informed me. "Then being terrified, I secreted myself at Chicklee; Dajeeba employed a "mediator, and gave me a pledge, and on this I met him and Ballaram at Araba: "afterwards, by way of Waree, I came to Sattara." The Peon states, that he proceeded to Waree, and found that Balkoba had gone into the Portuguese territory;

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Governor,
5 May 1836.

territory; that he went to Pedney and Araba, but could not find Balkoba: he however opened a communication with him, and having obtained a pledge of protection, as he said he was a guilty man, Balkoba came to Araba, and ultimately to Sattara. This account is fully confirmed by Dajeeba Waeed.

155. Whilst at Waree, the emissaries discovered that the third person of the above list was at that place, having been imprisoned by the Waree Government. Both Dajeeba and the Peon state that they requested that Morapunt might be delivered up to them, but the authorities at Waree refused, stating that they must first make a reference to Rutnagheery. In his own deposition Morapunt admits that he was under restraint when the emissaries arrived, and that he was first sent to Rutnagheery and then to Sattara. On the 19th October, Mr. Spooner, the Acting Collector, was instructed to forward Morapunt to Sattara, and he was accordingly sent to that place under a guard.

156. The fourth and fifth persons were the agents in communication with the Raja at Sattara, during the period when the intrigues were in progress. In a report, dated the 11th of September last, the Acting Resident observes as follows: "I have been in communication with the Magistrate at Poona with regard to Hurry Punt Fatuck and Narrain Bhutt Chitney, and every exertion has been made to discover them without success." On the 27th of the same month the Acting Resident reported that, "through the assistance of Govind Row, and the prompt measures of the Magistrate of Poona, Hurry Punt Fatuck had been secured at Chinchoor, and was then in custody at Sattara." On the 12th October Mr. Mills, the Magistrate, reported, that "on the receipt of intelligence from the Judge of Ahmednugger, that Hurry Punt Fatuck was concealed in a house at Chinchoor, he had despatched a Carcoon and two Peons with orders to search for him, which they did, and found and brought him a prisoner to Poona."

157. I have been unable to discover the precise date on which Narrain Bhutt Chitney was apprehended, but it must have been towards the very end of October last. In his letter of the 27th September, Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans stated, that he had hoped that Narrain Bhutt would have been secured at the same time as Hurry Punt; but he adds, "In consequence of some alarm, he left his retreat in Poona a few days ago, and has not since been heard of, and I have reason to believe he took this step after communicating with the authorities here (Sattara)." In his own evidence, Narrain Bhutt says:—"In September 1836, myself and Raojee Kotenees left Sattara and went to Poona, from whence we visited Bombay. I returned to Poona, and now Mr. Mills has sent me to Sattara." It was, in fact, through the active exertions of Mr. Mills that this person was ultimately secured.

158. The fifth person on the list, Raojee Kotenees, was however apprehended under circumstances which prevented, in a greater degree than in any other case, all chance of concert. He himself states, that he went to Bombay in October 1836, and lodged in the Waree of Soonder Bawajee. He lived in the British territory, with the intention of returning to Goa, when a Portuguese ship arrived, and tranquillity was restored. In May 1837, he came to Alundee and met Narrain Bhutt Chitney at Poona. He returned to Bombay, where he was apprehended and brought to Sattara. "We are inhabitants," he adds, "of the Goa districts, and are not acquainted with the state of affairs over the Desh (Deccan)." In fact, my colleagues will recollect that this person was, under the advice of the Advocate-General, apprehended by the Superintendent of Police at Bombay,* in virtue of an Order in Council on the 7th September last, and that, immediately after his apprehension he was forwarded to Sattara, under injunctions to prevent any person from communicating with him until delivered over to Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans,† who reported his arrival at Sattara on the 18th September. When he was thus seized at Bombay, without the slightest suspicion that he had been denounced, documentary

* *Fide* his report, dated 7th September.

† Letter to Mr. Mills, dated the 12th September.

documentary evidence of some importance, in elucidation of the Goa intrigues, came into our possession.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Govern
5 May 1838

159. The two last persons on the list were residing at Sattara. Their evidence is of great moment, and being supported by their books, cannot be doubted. With respect to them, Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans, in the sixteenth paragraph of his report, observes:—"From the bankers being inhabitants of Sattara, and having everything at stake, their evidence has been given with great caution;" and, I beg to add, that it was given in direct opposition to their own interests, residing, as they do, under the authority of a despotic prince, and one whom their statements affect so unfavourably.

160. With regard to the seven servants of Nago Deorao, the same improbability of collusion exists, independently of the entire absence of any motive, that I can discover, to induce them to bear false witness. The servants, Khundoo, Pattoo, and Hybuttee, were brought from separate villages in the neighbourhood of Sattara. Sunjeevun Brahmin, Kesow Josee, and the attendants Aojee and Sukhojee, were brought from Revensidh, a place about forty miles from Sattara, and Wassodeo Shastry was brought from Mahgaum, a village three miles from Sattara, in the neighbourhood of that city.

161. In the sixteenth paragraph of his report, Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans remarks:—"The greater part of the witnesses have been brought from a distance, without any chance of collusion, and certainly without any object to induce them to depose falsely; and I think it must be admitted, that the testimony borne by them, agreeing as it does in all material points, can only be founded on truth." In this opinion I entirely coincide: but, besides this, I assert, that the evidence has been obtained under very adverse circumstances; for power, influence, money, and threats, have all been lavishly exerted against our eliciting the truth. In his report of the 6th September last, the Acting Resident says:—"His (Bulwunt Row Chitnavces), as well as Govind Row's salary, is still continued to their respective families, and they are held up as examples to any others who may be examined, whilst those who are suspected of having spoken the truth are threatened and degraded."

162. In a letter, dated the 23d August 1837, the Acting Resident states (paragraph five):—"Every expedient is still resorted to to disgrace and alarm those who are suspected of being in communication with me, and they dread the consequences, if this Government have it in their power to deal with them."

163. In a recent despatch, dated 12th March 1838, Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans thus forcibly alludes to the circumstances under which his inquiries have been conducted:—"I have been unwilling to obtrude the difficulties of all kinds experienced here on the attention of Government, as regards these witnesses; but it is incumbent on me to take this opportunity of mentioning that, in addition to the personal violence now apprehended by these persons, it is also much to be feared, that all the means of subsistence derived by them from this Government, or from any property within this jurisdiction, will likewise be sequestered. The pension of 100 rupees per mensem, enjoyed by Abba Parisnees, has been stopped, as well as all his other emoluments; and although Abba Mareek and Elojee Mohitch still hold some small *haks* in their native villages, it is very likely that these, under some false pretext, will shortly be seized. On the other hand, the pensions and emoluments of the persons labouring under the charge of treason to the British Government are continued to them, and they are encouraged in every way, and held up as examples for the imitation of the rest."

164. I could multiply these proofs, in support of my argument, that the probabilities are against the supposition, that the witnesses in this case have combined to implicate the Raja in these proceedings. I cannot discover a single instance in which they have volunteered their testimony against him; and certainly, in the majority of cases, it has been wrung from them by the

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Governor,
5 May 1838.

force of circumstances entirely beyond their control. In no instance can I find reasonable ground for a suspicion, that the testimony has been afforded out of any hostile animus towards the Raja; but, on the contrary, if any bias existed at all, it was probably in his favour. True, most of the witnesses are deeply implicated in his Highness's treacherous designs, and may justly apprehend the consequences, but this feeling would naturally have led them to suppress and falsify the truth, rather than make disclosures which equally criminate their patron and themselves.

165. I now proceed, in the fourth and last place, to consider how far the testimonies, considered generally, of the witnesses, carry with them the marks of honesty; or, which is the same thing, what is the internal evidence of the truth of the narrative which is to be elicited from their several statements.

166. I have already admitted that many instances of discrepancies, and some few of direct contradiction, may be found. No less, I repeat, could be expected, where a great number of persons were called to relate transactions spreading retrospectively over a period of twelve years. But if we keep this in mind, and if we are further careful to distinguish between the instances in which the witnesses speak to facts immediately within their own knowledge, or at least to which their observation was fully directed at the time of their occurrence, and those where they speak from casual, and perhaps long subsequent hearsay, we shall be struck only with the general harmony and consistency of their evidence; and this impression will be strong, in proportion to the care with which the several examinations are studied. I do not mean, a jealous and diligent sifting of the evidence will not occasionally bring to light discrepancies which might escape the notice of the cursory reader; but that the completer the inspection we make, the greater, on the whole, will be the feeling of satisfaction created.

167. In truth, I do not believe that any thing could produce the effect just described, but that total impossibility of concerting a story to which I have, before referred, and the necessity under which the witnesses found themselves of telling the truth in leading points, as their safest course. Comparing the body of evidence in that case with that produced in almost any legitimate question before the courts of justice, when Natives are the witnesses, in respect to the general character of consistency and credibility which belongs to each, the advantage is, beyond all measure or comparison, in favour of the former. The reason is, because, in a judicial inquiry regularly instituted, there is opportunity to concert a story and to drill or suborn witnesses; and, in operations of this kind, the Natives are known to be very ingenious and not very scrupulous: and as the same plan is acted on by both parties, the mass of evidence collected in a Native cause of importance, generally exhibits great contradictions, and, not very rarely, conveys the idea of a frightful conflict of perjury. In the case under consideration, I feel little doubt that the witnesses, or most of them, have told their story in a way favourable to themselves rather than otherwise; but I believe that, taken by surprise, ignorant how much others might or might not have disclosed, and convinced from the manner and assurances of the Acting Resident, to whom in this, as in other respects, great credit is due, that their best chance was in stating the truth and not attempting to suppress leading facts, they have, for the most part, taken that course. On no other principle can the general, and at the same time unlaboured, coincidence of their several narratives be explained.

168. I have used the expression "unlaboured coincidence." The mere agreement of different persons deposing to the same transactions might suggest the idea of concert, and this in proportion to the minuteness and exactness of their several reports, if it did not seem to be natural and undesigned. What it is precisely which conveys the idea of an *undesigned agreement* between two or more statements of the same transactions; what it is that gives to different testimonies the air of coincidence without concert, it would not be very easy to describe; but a perusal of this evidence has certainly impressed me with that idea. Some fact seems to escape one witness, and is left unexplained by him, the real bearing of which does not appear till his evidence is collated with

with that of others, who state or allude to the same fact, though perhaps in a different connexion, and with the addition of other incidents. Circumstances are deposed to by one, which carry more or less of improbability on their very face, but which, when dovetailed with other circumstances produced by a different person, who was examined perhaps long afterwards, assume a quite natural appearance. Dates are wanting in one deposition, which may be made out from another, and not perhaps even from that other without a good deal of collation and inference. Nor must I omit here to mention, as a very material circumstance, that in some instances in which a witness has casually alluded to some extensive event, and perhaps has so timed that event as at first sight to throw a doubt on the truth of his statement, careful examination has verified his correctness.

SATTARA PAPERS.

Minute
by the Governor.
5 May 1838.

169. It is difficult, by detaching instances, so to exemplify that which I have mentioned, as to do it justice; yet I will make the attempt.

170. I have observed in the former part of this minute, that the deputation of Mahdeo Row Sirkey to pay the parting visit to Don Manoel before his departure for Europe, could not but be felt as a compliment by that person; yet still the proceeding, though not very extraordinary, is one which we should hardly have expected. Nago Deorao was the accredited agent of the Raja with the Viceroy of Goa. In that character he had been formally introduced by the Raja himself, to the Viceroy's agent, Herculano; and he seems to have throughout conducted himself in it with great diligence, fidelity, and, as far as the case admitted of it, success. It is not very easy, therefore, to understand why he should have been superseded on this occasion, and especially as he himself accompanied the Sirkey in his visit. Some obscure intimation of the reason may seem to lurk in the evidence of Narrain Chitney, who tells us, that "the Maharaj said," introducing the Sirkey to Don Manoel, "let him ascertain about the business." This is consistent with the supposition, that some distrust of the correctness of Nago's reports of his interviews with Don Manoel began to be felt, but still it does not directly countenance that supposition. A clear implication to the same effect may be found in a circumstance stated by Dajeeba, not in his deposition, but in answer to a question. Having returned to Sattara from his joint visit with the Sirkey, Nago delivered to the Raja a letter from Don Manoel. He then came and told Dajeeba, that both the Senaputtee and Dinkur Row had, in the preceding April, told the Raja that his (Nago's) honesty was to be suspected, but that on his delivering the letter they were all pleased, and that on his saying that the Sirkey, when he arrived, would relate the circumstances of the visit, the Maharaj said, "There is no need of the Sirkey; hitherto you have been our mokhtiar (accredited agent)." What here comes out, however, by inference and incidentally, is directly said by Govind Row Dewam, a witness examined at Ahmednugger by Mr. Hutt, and who, having been kept in strict confinement from an early period, could not have communicated with any of the other witnesses. He says that, hearing a rumour that Mahdeo Row Sirkey, who was going to fetch his family from Waree to Sattara, was also charged with a mission to Don Manoel, he questioned Narrain Chitney on the subject, when the latter answered, "The Sirkey is going for his private affairs. He has been told by the Maharaj that, under pretence of the Deo going onwards to Goa, *whether the matters which the Waced* (Nago) *and others mentioned here be true or false, ascertain this by visiting the Governor there.*"

171. I give another instance. Nago having come from Sattara, after his visit with the Sirkey, to pay yet another visit to Don Manoel, was, in consequence of circumstances not necessary to be here recorded, too late for the ex-Viceroy. Nago's mission being now at an end, it might have been expected that he should return to Sattara. In fact, the Raja expected him immediately, as appears from the testimonies both of Raojee Kotenees and Narrain Chitney. Nago, however, went to Waree, where he was afterwards taken sick and died. Two good witnesses, Dajeeba and Balkoba, assign as the reason of his coming to Waree, that Don Manoel was gone, and that nothing more was to be

SATTARA
PAPERS.Minute
by the Governor,
5 May 1838.

to be done at Goa. This appears to be a good reason for quitting Goa, but not for his repairing to Waree, unless he had merely taken that place in his way over the Himmunt Ghaut to Sattara, which does not appear to have been the case, for it is plain that he was making some stay there, when he fell ill. Dajeeba, who was with him at the time and till his death,* says that he became sick "shortly after" his arrival at Waree; and as his disorder was dropsy, and he reached Waree early in April, and did not die till the 30th of July, there is, at least, no necessity for believing that the disorder arrested his journey. The true reason for his repairing to Waree, which could not even be suspected from the testimony of any other witness, is given by Morapunt Josee. This person had been deputed by Nago to Waree, to recover the clothes of which he had been plundered, as already mentioned, during his immediately previous journey from Sattara. One of the thieves had confessed the theft, but the property was not restored. From Morapunt's account, indeed, it would appear, that one or more persons of interest were concerned in the affair; and he says distinctly, that the Waree authorities did not make a full inquiry: "I will make the inquiries to day or to-morrow; so he "excused himself. Upon my writing this circumstance to Nana (Nago), he, "in consequence, came to Waree in the month of Chytur (April), together "with his mundullec (party). He having met Shrimunt Bappo Sahib, and "upon his telling him to remain quiet for some time, he remained in the house "of the Neroorkur."

172. I give a third example. Wassodeo Shastry Agasee calls the agent, or envoy, whom Don Manoel sent to Sattara, by the name of Moosafit. This witness himself says, that he heard of the matter afterwards on a visit to Sattara. He is clearly mistaken in naming the person in question Moosafit, for thirteen other witnesses call him Irkool or Erculan; nor is it possible to guess the cause of the mistake. But, as he further adds, this man had originally been a servant of Bappoo Gokla (meaning, I believe, not the well known minister of the last Peishwa, but an acquaintance of the Swamee of Sunkeshwur so named),† the natural inference would be, that the person alluded to was some Hindu or Mussulman; whereas it clearly appears from other witnesses, that he was a "Christian," that is, a native Portuguese. This inference, however, the witness himself obviates, by a fact incidentally, but very naturally introduced. He says, that Moosafit, when introduced into the palace secretly at night, put on "a Moglace dress;" thus clearly shewing that he ordinarily wore the European habit; which, it may be added, is very particularly stated of Herculano both by Aojec and Hybuttee.

173. I will mention only one other instance, but to me it seems a very remarkable one. On occasion of the introduction of Herculano to the Raja Nago Deorao was not present. This is distinctly stated by all the most competent witnesses, though two or three, confessedly speaking from hearsay, state otherwise. The circumstance, at first sight, is not a little puzzling. It will be observed, that the very object of this visit was, that Nago might be accredited by the Raja, in person, as his envoy to Goa; and as Nago actually set out from Goa at the same time with Herculano for Sattara, though he came by another route, the plain inference is, that it was actually intended that he should be present: and one cannot but wonder that the introduction should not have been delayed till his arrival, which, in point of fact, took place immediately afterwards. Some of the witnesses, however, mention circumstances which seem to me sufficiently to explain the matter, and which are the more observable, because they are not introduced for the purpose of explaining it (no question having been put on the subject), but come out in the course of the narrative. Balkoba states,‡ that Herculano, displeased on his arrival at Sattara to find that no previous arrangement had been made for him, set out for Waree. Balkoba and Balumbhut were thereupon dispatched to fetch him back, which they did. He was told, "this very night a meeting "between you and the Maharaj will take place." The meeting took place accordingly.

* Dajeeba's statement at beginning.

† Mentioned in Narrain Bhutt Siddee's evidence, taken by Mr. Dunlop.

‡ Paragraph 9.

accordingly. The fact, it should be observed, of Herculano's having gone off to Warree and having been brought back, though not the reason of it, is stated by Raojee Kotenees,* who also describes the confusion of the mundullee on finding that he had gone off: "Why have you sent Erculan away?" so they said very mournfully.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Govern
5 May 1837.

174. The impatience of Herculano there, which is farther testified by his having left Sattara for Meeruj and Goa the very next morning,† and which perhaps is not very surprising, considering the awkwardness of his situation as a secret emissary from Goa, and engaged in a treacherous plot against the British Government, affords a fair explanation of the interview having taken place in Nago's absence. It would naturally be thought a great object to consult the wishes and feelings of the Portuguese Envoy; and if he, the very person for whose assurance Nago was to be accredited, was content that Nago should be absent on the occasion, no other party had a fair right to object.

175. I acknowledge that, to me, the absence of Nago from this interview seems a strong proof in favour of the truth of the whole story. Had the narrative been concerted by the witnesses, they would not have failed to make him present and a leading party. It would never have occurred to a fabricator to concert the interview, leaving out the very person for whose sake it was chiefly held. There could be no difficulty in introducing him on any supposition; none, certainly, if he was an imaginary person; nor any, if he was, as they said, a real one; for all of them declared that he was dead, nor did any other part of their story require his presence elsewhere. On the other hand, if we suppose that the alleged fabricators, for some unimaginable reason or other, really found it necessary to leave so capital a person out of their story, we may be sure that they would have been at pains to explain the cause of his absence, instead of leaving the explanation to be gathered, at haphazard, from incidental circumstances. Here, then, we have an incident recorded, which at first view wears, in some degree, an air of improbability; but when the circumstances are fully looked into, the improbability disappears, while, at the same time, the fact of that improbable incident forming a part of the story does itself become an argument that the story is true.

176. It is not, however, possible, as I have already observed, to convey, by detached extracts, an adequate conception of the *manner* and *effect* of a considerable body of evidence on any subject. It is like exhibiting a few features of a face, by way of representing the expression of the countenance. I will, therefore, only observe further on this point, that, even had it been possible for the persons examined to manufacture and arrange a false tale in crimination of the Raja, yet there is generally about these narratives an air of nature and a circumstantiality joined with it, of which forgery is hardly capable. So far as the different witnesses take distinct and peculiar ground, the facts dwelt on by each are precisely what might have been expected from the situation or circumstances of the individual. The servants of Nago say little of the plot; but they are most particular in describing their master's movements, from the very beginning of their service. Morapunt Josee gratuitously enlarges on the death of his uncle Chintapunt Josee, and on the widow of the deceased having become a *suttee*,* and on the expenses of the funeral and *suttee* having been partly defrayed by the Raja of Sattara, and on a promise from the Raja to defray the balance, as also to pay a debt owing by the widow at the time of self-sacrifice, for which the witness had made himself responsible. The same witness having been employed by Nago in bringing to justice the persons who robbed him, naturally details the circumstances of the robbery, and the steps he took in the affair afterwards; on neither of which subjects any other witness touches. It is curious, that the witness also enlarged on this robbery when he was examined before Mr. Spooner at Rutnagheery. Raojee Kotenees is copious in stating the ill-usage which Nago had shewn him, in paying him so poorly for his services, and he describes the complaints which he consequently made to the Raja or his officers, and which had the good effect of bringing

* Paragraph 8.

† Paragraph 8.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Governor,
5 May 1838.

bringing him some sums of money; while, on these points, except as to the fact that certain payments were then made to him by the Raja, all the other examiners are perfectly silent. There is also a great air of probability in some incidents mentioned by Balkoba and Narrain Bhutt Chittay, indicating the petty jealousy with which Nago was regarded by some of the other persons concerned.

177. Before I close this topic, I must prove what I have observed above, that some of the witnesses alluded to extrinsic events as having taken place at particular times, and that such allusions are found to be correct.

178. I have elsewhere remarked, that the circumstances of Don Peres having arrived at Goa from Portugal with the title of Prefect, and of his having afterwards found it necessary, in the disturbed state of Goa, to proceed to Bombay, and of Don Manoel's having at one time embarked at Vingorla for Europe, and of his having relanded in consequence of a dispute with the Captain of the vessel, and having for a time resided there, and of his having finally re-embarked for Lisbon in March 1836, are very accurately mentioned or referred to by some of the witnesses. These, however, it may be said, being recent and notorious events, there is no great wonder that they should have been well known to the persons examined, or that a feigned story, which immediately related to Goa and its Government, should have been successfully adapted to them. Still I cannot but think, that the circumstance alluded to aids and confirms the argument for the veracity of the witnesses; but, in order to avoid the objection, I have been induced to test the correctness of the witnesses, in instances where they incidentally mention facts not necessarily connected with their story, and perhaps of a remote date.

179. The commencement and early part of Nago's connection with Sattara are given by several witnesses, but the dates are only given by reference to public events. "He came to Sattara," says Hurry Punt Fatuck, "about two or three years after the introduction of the Company's rule." The treaty of Sattara bears date on the 25th September 1819; and this, therefore, would bring Nago to Sattara about 1822. His first visit to the Goa territory, as I have before observed, preceded (and yet it could not long have preceded) the coming of the Swamee of Sunkeshwur to Sattara in June 1825; for it was in consequence of the report made by him after that visit, that the Swamee repaired to Sattara. It may be fairly conjectured, therefore, that the date of that visit to the Goa territory (for he did not go to Goa itself) was early in 1825.

180. On the above fact I found the first instance of coincidence with history which I am about to mention. Dajeeba Waced speaking (and, as he says, on the information of Nago himself) of Nago's first visit to Goa, says, that "he went on the Kittoor expedition, and from Kittoor he went to Goa." Dajeeba, it will be recollected, was not personally connected with the Goa intrigue till several years after its commencement; and his evidence, most valuable where it relates to the transactions in which he had himself been concerned, is often inaccurate from hearsay. Respecting this very visit to Goa, he tells us that Nago had an interview with Don Manoel, which is quite incorrect. But Dajeeba, who knew that Nago had frequently seen Don Manoel at Goa before he was himself connected with Nago, might very easily mistake and mis-state the time when the first of those interviews took place; and yet it did not seem to me likely that, in stating the remarkable circumstance of Nago's having gone on the Kittoor expedition, a circumstance not mentioned by any other witness, he could well be mistaken if such was really the fact. Nor is the fact in itself unlikely; for Nago, as all the evidence shews, had till then been a sort of soldier of fortune, and was in search of employment, which might naturally lead him to a scene where military operations were in progress. The witness, I should observe, gives not the least hint of the time when either the Kittoor expedition, or the subsequent Goa visit, took place; but the evidence of other witnesses refers the Goa visit to the early part of 1825, and, therefore, if Dajeeba spoke the truth, the Kittoor expedition must almost of necessity have taken place in 1824, and pro-

SATTARA
PAPERS.Minute
by the Governo
5 May 1838.

bably late in that year. To test his accuracy, then, I looked to see how far history supported him, and the result is as follows. An insurrection broke out at Kittoor on the 23d October 1824, and the fort was seized by the insurgents. A large force, consisting of several regiments of infantry and cavalry, with horse and foot artillery, marched to suppress it, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Deacon, and the fort was recaptured on the 5th December 1824.

181. The value of the above example consists in this, that the date of Dajeeba's fact is not given by himself, either directly or by implication. It can be made out only by a collation of his testimony with that of other witnesses, who do not even mention the fact; and then, when so made out, it is found to be agreeable to history.

182. I give a second instance. Hybuttee, who is very minute as to incidents but gives no dates, tells us, that he was taken into the service of Nago at Sattara fifteen days before the Raja set out for the Singhust at Nassick, which, as has appeared, was in 1825. The witness farther says, that at that time he had been labouring one year in Sattara. But what had led him to labour? "*In the same year,*" he says, "my cattle died; therefore I laboured one year in Sattara." If the witness then spoke the truth, some sort of scarcity must have occurred in the year 1824; and such was remarkably the fact. The rains failed in that year, not only in the Deccan but in most parts of the country; and it was only a plentiful fall, so late as October, that averted an absolute famine.

183. A third instance may be the following. It is distinctly in evidence, that Nago was engaged by the Raja just before he proceeded to Nassick in 1825, and that Nago then accompanied his Highness only to Deoor, and thence returned to Sattara. There Balkoba Kelkur joined him in August of the same year 1825; and Balkoba states that, in the following month, the Raja personally commissioned Nago to go to Poona for some purpose which he does not well explain; that Nago returned without being able to effect the object, and that "afterwards he left Sattara and went to Kuweer (Kolapoor), where "the Swamee then was." Now, as the Nassick Jatra takes place once in twelve years, and as the commencement of the last took place in July 1837, it was obvious to conclude that the former one commenced in July 1825. It was also natural to suppose that the Raja, who certainly attended it, should be at Nassick about the time of its commencing; and as his Highness is here stated by a good witness to have been at Sattara in September 1825, the necessary inference was, that his Highness must have returned from Nassick to Sattara in or before that month.

184. Here, however, an apparent difficulty occurs. The servant, Hybuttee, who was also at that time with Nago, and who, without naming any month or year, detailed his master's movements almost from day to day, distinctly represents him as having left Sattara for Kolapore, where he met the Swamee, about fifteen or sixteen days after the Raja set out for Nassick; and he consistently states in the sequel, that when Nago again returned to Sattara, which was not till some months afterwards, the Raja "had come from Nassick "a long time previously." The whole both says and implies, that Nago left Sattara for Kolapore long before the Raja's return from Nassick, which is directly opposite to the inference already drawn from the testimony of the other eye-witness, Balkoba. I was at first perplexed with this difficulty, but further inquiry solved it completely. The Jatra in question lasts upwards of a twelvemonth, commencing on the 25th July 1825, and did not close till the 21st August 1826; and I find that the Raja was to set out for it on the 23d October 1825, and to be absent about two months. He was plainly, therefore, at Sattara during all September, which quite reconciles the two accounts.

185. The above is, I think, observable, as an instance of an apparent contradiction between two witnesses, which is entirely removed by settling accurately the date of an external fact, to which date neither of them makes any allusion.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Governor,
5 May 1888.

186. I pass to a fourth instance, drawn from nearly the same period. Balkoba, in words already quoted, after referring to what Nana did at Sattara in September 1825, says that he "afterwards" went to Kolapore to meet the Swamee. The vague word, "afterwards," leaves it possible to suppose, that the journey to Kolapore did not take place till after the lapse of many months, or even of years. The witness, however, adds a very material fact. He says that, while Nana was at Kolapore, Mr. Baber came there with puttans, that is, with a military force; but he assigns no date to the transaction. But Hybuttee evidently speaks of the same journey to Kolapore, for he follows it up with the same consecutive series of events; and, by watching the time he allows for the intervening proceedings, it decidedly appears that Nago was in Kolapore early in November and during December 1825, and left it about the end of the year. To test, then, the accuracy of this account, it is important to know whether Mr. Baber, with a military force, arrived in Kolapore between the early part of November and the end of December in that year. I have accordingly examined the point, and find that the Raja of Kolapore having evinced a refractory spirit, instructions were issued, in October 1825, for the march of a military force on that place; that such force marched accordingly; that Mr. Baber, being then Political Agent in the Southern Mahratta country, went to Kolapore also; that he reported his arrival there on the 17th December 1825; and that his last letter thence, handing up a treaty he had concluded with the Raja, bears date on the 30th of that month.

187. Thus the coincidence of these witnesses is indirectly proved, by ascertaining the date of an event to which one of them cursorily alludes, but without dating it, and to which the other makes no allusion at all.

188. A fifth instance. Balkoba Kelkur, in relating some of Nago's proceedings, says (paragraph seven), "Nana (Nago) sent me to Renavee: afterwards Nana also came to Renavee in the month of Fagoon (March) *on the eclipse of the full moon.*" The witness does not state in what year this happened; nor is it possible, from any part of his evidence uncomparred with that of others, to trace out the year. He proceeds, however, to state, that Chintapunt Josec died in the following December, that Nana Fatuck was sent from Sattara for Erculan in the succeeding Chyttee (April-May), and that Erculan came accordingly. Now, Narrain Bhutt Chitney states, that this mission of Nana Fatuck's took place in Chyttee in the Sukey year 1753 (or April-May 1831); nor can there be a doubt about this date, for Erculan came to Sattara within the following month or two, and an accumulation of evidence, including that of entries in the bankers' books, proves that his visit to the Raja took place in the year 1831.

189. It is thus clearly made out, that Nago's arrival at Renavee, of which Balkoba speaks above, occurred in March 1830; and therefore, if the witness is to be believed, an eclipse of the moon must have happened in the course of that month. I turned with some curiosity to the almanack for 1830, and I there found that the *moon was totally eclipsed on the 9th March*. The superstition with which the Hindoos regard the eclipses, makes it not at all surprising that a *total* eclipse should have made a lasting impression on the mind of Balkoba; nor could I help thinking that, by "the eclipse of the *full moon*," he meant to describe a total eclipse, though the expression would certainly not have that meaning in the mouth of one who had the most ordinary acquaintance with the cause of lunar eclipses.

190. I add a sixth and last example. Raojee Kotenees having transiently said in his deposition, that Nago Deorao had, on one occasion, in his possession a letter from Don Manoel for the Governor of Bombay, Lord Clare, he was required, in cross-examination, to state its contents. He answers, "a chuktee (letter) got for the Governor Sahib of Bombay, I saw with Nago Deorao. I do not know its contents. *Regarding some one's pension*, thus Nago said. This letter was prior to 1835, according to my recollection." Now, on the records of this Government, I actually find a public letter from Don Manoel for Lord Clare, dated the 16th February 1835, soliciting the continuance of a Government pension, which had been enjoyed by a chief

called Chimanajee, to his widow after his death. This letter is, in fact, one of those which Mr. Willoughby has circulated, in order to identify Don Manoel's signature; and feeling no doubt that it is the very letter to which the Kotenees alludes, notwithstanding his slight inaccuracy respecting the date, I will annex a translation of it to the present minute.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Governo
5 May 1838.

191. I cannot help adding, without reference to the immediate purpose for which I have brought forward this letter, that the circumstance of its having been seen in Nago's hands, in whatever way caused, proves the existence of a remarkable intimacy between that person and the ex-Viceroy of Goa.

192. In closing these remarks respecting the oral evidence in this case, I must observe, that there is one witness to whose testimony it does not apply. I allude to Rowlojee Naik Khaskur, the only contumacious witness examined. I agree with Colonel Ovans, however, as I have already said, that the conduct of this person, when under examination, only confirms the case against the Raja; but, besides this, some answers escaped him, which confirm a part of the general narrative of the witnesses.

193. I will quote the answers and the questions to which they belong.

“ Q. Are you, or are you not, acquainted with Nago Deorao Waeed ?

“ A. I am acquainted with him; I knew him at Baroda.

“ Q. Did you see him at Sattara, or not ?

“ A. When I know nothing, what answer should I give ?”

194. I do not, I think, put any force on this short interlocutory, when I quote it as assisting to prove, first, that Nago originally came from Baroda; secondly, that the witness had known him at Sattara; and thirdly, that there were good reasons for his not wishing to disclose the fact of that knowledge; all which three points are so abundantly established by the rest of the evidence.

195. I here close my observations on the oral evidence, which have insensibly extended to a much greater length than I expected or desired. The documentary evidence, which I have next to consider, will, if I do not deceive myself, greatly confirm the general purport of those observations.

196. In considering this portion of the evidence, I see no necessity for departing from the order in which it has been submitted to us by the Acting Resident at Sattara. Great light is thrown on the oral evidence by the arranged and digested form in which it is exhibited in Mr. Willoughby's summaries; but those who have done me the honour to peruse carefully the foregoing portion of this minute, must, I should hope, have gained so complete a possession of all the leading parts of the present case, that they will perceive, without any confusion or difficulty, my analysis of the documents in the series in which they stand; and it does not seem to me desirable to transpose them without necessity.

197. There are, however, some few short summaries of evidence which Mr. Willoughby has drawn up, with reference not to the nature or contents of the documents, but to the authentication of an important division of them, which, I think, usefully collect and apportion the evidence on that subject. These summaries, marked BB. 1 to BB. 4, are, as well as those already considered, annexed to the present minute; and I will make the proper use of them when I come to that particular division of the documents to which they relate.

198. The first portion of the documents handed up to us by Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans is that comprised in the list accompanying his report of the 11th November 1837. It consists of extracts from the account-books of the banker Teejeeram from 1828-29 to 1835-36. My observations on these have, for the most part, been anticipated in a preceding part of this minute. I will only further observe, that on reference to Mr. Willoughby's summary, A.A 3, it will be seen that the aggregate amount of the banker's receipts through “ Soopoojee and Doordajee,” the feigned names of Rowlojee Naik Khaskur, is 14,088 rupees, of which the sum of 8,340 rupees is credited in 1835-36. On these extracts Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans remarks: “ They

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Governor,
5 May 1898.

"are of undoubted authenticity, and prove, in a remarkable manner, the different transactions detailed in the evidence of the witnesses, the articles alluded to therein being entered by name, as well as the date of receipt and payment." For particular instances in which the evidence is verified by the extracts, and *vice versa*, I beg to refer to the conclusion of the summary of evidence last mentioned.

199. The second portion (List D. of the report) consists of four Mahratta letters, dated the 14th January, 12th, 16th, and 26th February 1837, addressed by Herculano, at Demaun, to Raojee Kotenees, Bombay, and bear the writer's signature. These are designated "Bombay Papers," from the circumstance of their having been found in the possession of Raojee Kotenees when he was apprehended in Bombay, in the manner stated in the 158th paragraph of this minute. The substance of these letters is as follows.

200. In No. 1, the writer alludes to another letter, previously forwarded by post to the care of Venoba of the custom-house, and requests the Kotenees to come and meet him, when "every thing can be stated;" but adds that, if he has any suspicion about coming to Demaun, they could meet in British territory, at a village called Kaley Mulva, when he (the writer) "would explain something."

201. In No. 2, Herculano acknowledges the receipt of a letter from the Kotenees, and states that, although he had sent three letters through channels which are mentioned, no one of them had been answered. He then observes, "As you could not come, you wrote that you would send a confidential person: he also has not yet arrived. With respect to your request, that news of Portugal should be written, *it is not so that news will come into your comprehension, those tidings require to be told by word of mouth.*" He concludes the letter by stating, that he had intended to set out instantly, but that he was sick and "had no means for expenses," and that, if the Kotenees intended to come, he must come quickly, or send a good and trustworthy person, and write immediately. This letter is addressed to Venoba, and bears an inscription in the Portuguese language.

202. In No. 3, Herculano expresses surprise that the Kotenees had not replied to any one of three letters he had written, and states that the confidential person had not arrived. For the last time, therefore, he writes, "If you intend to send him, do so immediately on this letter arriving, or I will send a trustworthy man from hence: until then you must continue in Bombay. Send an answer immediately by post; according to it the future steps are to be taken. *I am waiting to go.*" This letter, like the last, is addressed to Venoba and bears a Portuguese inscription.

203. In No. 4, Herculano again refers to several letters which he had despatched by post and by Putteemars, and complains of not having received a reply, which leaves him in doubt whether the Kotenees is still in Bombay. He again alludes to Raojee's having written that he would send "a good man" of his to Demaun, since which a month and a half had elapsed. Had such a man arrived, he (Herculano) intended to have set out in the month of February. He therefore requests an immediate answer, and concludes by observing, "Were I to mention the news of this place and of Europe, you would not be able to understand it, therefore it is not written: without a personal meeting it will not be comprehended. Let kindness and friendship remain." I presume that "the month of February" means the month in which he was writing.

204. Raojee Kotenees, on these letters being shewn to him, deposed as follows:—"The four letters were addressed to me by Erculan, and they signify thus:—The Viceroy took his departure; his man was to follow; with him Erculan should be despatched: thus the Maharaj directed and gave cash for expenses. Afterwards Narrain Bhutt Chitney and myself went to Bombay, and we sent letters to Erculan to come from Demaun to Bombay, but he did not come, and wrote to us to meet him at Demaun."

SATTARA
PAPERS.Minute
by the Governor
5 May 1838.

205. These letters are of importance in several ways. In the first place, they undeniably prove that an intimacy existed between the parties; in the second, that they were engaged in some design which could not prudently be committed to writing; and, in the third, they corroborate, by alluding to some journey which Herculano proposed to take, the evidence to the fact, that the Raja of Sattara intended to send an agent to Portugal, in furtherance of his intrigues with Goa. I have elsewhere remarked, that the circumstances under which Raojee Kotenees was apprehended, give great weight to his testimony, a remark which, *à fortiori*, applies to these letters, which were then found in his possession. It is quite impossible that he could have been tampered with, or that he could have communicated with the other witnesses; and as soon as his papers fell into our possession they were sealed up, and forwarded to the Acting Resident.* I see no reason whatever to doubt that he has correctly explained the meaning of the letters, namely, that they refer to the Goa intrigue, and to the design of sending the writer to Europe.

206. Among the papers found on Raojee Kotenees there is another letter (No. 5, List D.) written from Demaun by one Jugunath Sabbajec to Sabhajee Praboo; and the Kotenees explains, that Sabhajee Praboo was with him in Bombay, and that Jugunath wrote it, enclosing a letter which Herculano had written to Narrain Bhutt Chitney, and requesting that, if the Chitney came to Demaun, he (Sabhajee) would accompany him. This indirectly, and therefore more forcibly, corroborates the representation of the Kotenees and Narrain Bhutt, that Herculano was in communication with the Chitney as well as with Raojee Kotenees, and that he asked him also to visit Demaun: a circumstance which does not appear from Herculano's letters actually produced.

207. The third, and most important, portion of the documentary evidence, consists of certain letters and papers, given over by Nago Deorao, on his death-bed, to his brother-in-law, Balkoba Kelkur. These were brought from the Portuguese village of Araba to Sawunt Warree, and they are therefore designated by Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans as "the Warree Papers," and a brief description will be found in List E. of his report of the 11th November last.

208. The authentication of these letters and papers is a matter of the utmost moment; and it is to this object that the second set of Mr. Willoughby's summaries is directed. The summaries are intended to show, first, the circumstances under which Balkoba Kelkur received charge of Nago Deorao's papers; secondly, the circumstances under which Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans became possessed of them; thirdly, in what manner certain letters, alleged to have been addressed to the Governor, Don Manoel, again came into Nago Deorao's possession; and, fourthly, such information as has been obtained regarding a large and small seal (*sicca* and *mortub*) used by Nago as the agent of the Raja, and found among the papers. I will briefly abstract the evidence on these four points, before I offer any remark on the documents themselves.

209. The first point is elucidated in the summary marked BB: 1; from which it will be seen, that it is clearly established by the evidence of three persons who were present, namely, Balkoba Kelkur, Dajecba Waed, and Morapunt Josee, that Nago Deorao, when on his death-bed, delivered over his papers and seals to the first-named person, being his brother-in-law, with instructions to deliver them to the Raja, to whom he at the same time dictated and verified a letter, stating that he had done so, and recommending his family and his party to his Highness's protection. The letter referred to is among "the Warree Papers," and will be remarked on hereafter. The testimony of the three witnesses already mentioned is confirmed by that of the son of the deceased, who arrived at Warree on the day after his father's death, and was thus addressed by his uncle, Balkoba: "The papers and letters, the marks and stamps, I will retain in my own keeping; you have nothing to do with them."

210. For

* I beg to refer to Mr. Chief Secretary Wathen's Memorandums of the 8th and 15th, and to my Minute of the 13th September 1837.

SATTARA
PAPERS.Minute
by the Governor,
5 May 1838.

210. For the elucidation of the second point I would refer to the summary marked BB. 2; from this it will be seen, that Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens first learned of the existence of these papers from Dajeeba Waeed, who, in conjunction with a Residency Peon, named Ballaram, was deputed to Warree to discover Balkoba, and to obtain the papers from that person; some difficulty was at first experienced, but the attempt at length succeeded. The papers were obtained from a koonbin residing at Araba, in the Portuguese territory, on payment of the sum of 400 rupees; and, on the 6th October last, the Acting Resident reported the return of his emissaries, bringing with them Balkoba Kelkur and the "papers and seals;" at which time, it is worthy of remark, that a considerable portion of the oral evidence contained in list A., appended to the Acting Resident's report of the 11th November, had already been recorded. The account given by Dajeeba Waeed and the Peon, of the mode in which they accomplished the object of their mission, is consistent in every respect, except that the former states the money to have been paid to Balkoba Kelkur; the latter, to the woman with whom Balkoba had deposited the papers: a discrepancy which seems to me to be immaterial, and which would probably have been explained had they been interrogated on the point.

211. In respect to the third point, I beg to refer to the summary marked BB. 3, wherein it will be seen that Dajeeba Waeed states, that he accompanied Nago Deorao when he visited the governor and got back the papers, and that he saw him come down stairs with the papers in his hand; and this evidence is corroborated by that of Morapunt Josee, who states that Nago informed him of the fact. It will hereafter be seen, that among Nago Deorao's papers is a letter dated the 15th January 1835, written in the name of the Raja of Don Manoel, and requesting him to give back the papers. (*Vide* No. 9 of List E. and paragraphs 237 and 238 of my minute.)

212. In the summary marked BB. 4, Mr. Willoughby has collected, and, I believe, very faithfully, all the evidence that has been obtained respecting the seals used by Nago Deorao, and which are now in possession of Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens. The fact of these seals having been possessed by Nago Deorao, and of their having been used by him in maintaining the intercourse with Goa, is clearly established; but it has not been proved from whence they were obtained, though it may fairly be presumed that the Raja was aware of their existence. Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens has retained these seals in his custody, but has annexed impressions of them to his report.* He observes, that they are not the same as those generally used by the Raja, and it therefore seems very likely that they were made up, as stated in the deposition of Balkoba Kelkur, by Nago himself at Pedney, under the orders of the Raja; and the dying testimony of Nago, directing that they should be returned to the Raja, confirms the impression, that his Highness was not ignorant of their being in his possession.

213. In proceeding to remark on the documents themselves, I must first refer to the summary of evidence marked AA. 11, and to my observations on it, contained in the 137th to the 141st paragraphs of this minute. In that summary it is shown, that letters were interchanged between the Raja of Sattara and Don Manoel, the Governor of Goa; a circumstance which, as I have there remarked, supplies a link in proving the authenticity of the letters which have fallen into our hands.

214. Among the "Warree Papers" were found nine documents, which are marked *a, b, c, d, e, f, g, h, i*, of list E. of Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens's report of the 11th November, written in the Portuguese language. The three first are letters purporting to be addressed by the Governor to the Raja, and two of them are signed "D. Manoel de Portugal e Castro;" the third is not signed. The first of these is dated from Goa, the 22d January 1833, and is in reply to one from the Raja of the 27th December 1832. In this the Governor ratifies "every thing that he wrote to the Raja on the 20th August 1832," and proceeds

* *Vide* No. 39, list E.

ceeds to observe, "No opportunity having yet occurred of a ship proceeding to Lisbon, I have not been able to bring to the notice of his Most Faithful Majesty the high and most mighty King of Portugal and Algarves, the wishes of your worship, which I hope to do by the first opportunity that may offer, on the same terms as I have already communicated." He assures the Raja that he should be made acquainted with the resolution "of that august sovereign" as soon as it was received. In conclusion, the Governor states, that he will bear in mind the recommendation which the Raja had made in favour of "Her- culano de Neronha," and be useful to him whenever opportunity offers, and thus show the value which he placed on his worship's recommendation.

SATTARA
PAPERS.Minute
by the Governo
5 May 1836.

215. The second letter, or *b*, is dated from Goa, the 16th May 1834, and is in reply to one from the Raja of the 12th February of that year. After expressing his satisfaction at having learned news of the Raja's good health "from his honoured Envoy," the Governor writes, "As regards the contents of that letter, I have only now to say, that the annual ship from Lisbon not having arrived this year, probably because, at the proper time of her leaving for India, the affairs of the Court of Portugal were not in perfect tranquillity, I have been disappointed in the pleasure which I anticipated, of communicating the resolution of her Most Faithful Majesty, as I had promised. That resolution must be expected in the ensuing season. I will immediately apprise you of it; and, I assure you, it will give me great pleasure, if it be agreeable to your wishes, since I take great interest in the prosperity of your worship and of your states. May God enlighten your worship with his divine grace."

216. The third letter, or *c*, is dated from Goa, the 23d August 1833, and acknowledges one from the Raja of the 9th July of the same year. It desires the Raja to rest assured, "that the moment he (the Governor) received any resolution on his letter, it should be communicated to the Raja," and that his worship might rely on the Governor's sincere wishes for the prosperity of himself and his states, and on "the lively interest which the Governor took in every thing relating to the Raja."

217. The two first of these letters have every appearance of being originals. The third seems to be merely the rough draft of a letter, either actually sent or intended to be so. If they are genuine, their contents, taken in connexion with the custody from which they came, are, without any other evidence, sufficient to establish an intrigue with Goa, and fully confirm the fact stated by several of the witnesses, that the proposals of the Raja were stated by the Governor to have been referred for the consideration of the Court of Portugal. Their authority is, I think, established by the four following circumstances:—first, by the mode in which they were obtained, and which renders it unlikely that they are fabricated; secondly, by the evidence of Raojee Kotenees, who is conversant with the Portuguese language* and acquainted with the Governor's signature; thirdly, by a comparison of the signatures attached to the letters *a* and *b*, with signatures of Don Manoel's, regarding the genuineness of which there can be no dispute; and fourthly, by an exact counterpart, in Mahratta, having been found of the letter *a*, which is proved to be in the hand-writing of a public officer of the Goa government. (Vide 227th paragraph of this minute.)

218. The evidence of Raojee Kotenees is as follows:—"I have looked at the two papers marked *a* and *b*. These two papers are written by the Viceroy Sahib to the Raja of Sattara. On them the signature is by the hand of the Viceroy, Don Manoel. I am acquainted with the signature; it is certainly in his own hand; those are original papers. The paper marked *c* is a letter to the Raja of Sattara in the name of the Viceroy Sahib. It has no signature, consequently I do not know whether it is the original or a copy." The witnesses, Dajeeba Waced and Balkoba Kelkur,

prove

* This is proved by the note in this language (*g*, of list E.) addressed to the Kotenees by Dr. Herculano, and dated the 15th April 1834.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Governor,
5 May 1838.

prove that the papers in the Portuguese language were in the possession of Nago Deorao when he died.

219. In order to establish the third of the above-mentioned proofs, I circulate with this minute seven original letters, which have been indiscriminately selected by the Political Secretary from our records, and which were addressed by Don Manoel to Sir John Malcolm, Sir Sidney Beckwith, and Lord Clare, and respectively bear the signature of the writer. My Colleagues will judge if the signatures on these correspond with those on the letters *a* and *b*. They will observe, that the signature of the Viceroy is very peculiar, more especially in the formation of the letter *P* of Portugal; and, in that respect, all these seem to me to resemble one another. I am aware that courts of law are not very partial to evidence founded on a comparison of hand-writing. The fear, I suppose is, lest one forgery should be made to help out another. I see no room for objection, however, when the document which is produced in order to test that in dispute, comes in a shape which precludes all doubts of its genuineness. To me, certainly, it appears that, if the signatures on *a* and *b* are not those of Don Manoel, there never was a more inimitable forgery; and I will only observe further, that as the Raja is, of course, unacquainted with the Portuguese language, the necessity of so elaborate a forgery is not apparent; for, on the supposition that the Viceroy was not really implicated in the intrigue, but that Nago and his associates falsely assured the Raja of his concern in it, and fabricated these letters in support of the calumny, any forgery of the autograph of the Governor, however clumsy, would have served the purpose as well as the most exact counterfeit, since there could scarcely be any person at Sattara able to detect the imposition.

220. I have to repeat in this place, that in giving my judgment, how far the evidence before us brings home to this or that individual a participation in the intrigue, I only discharge a public duty. But let it ever be recollected, that the guilt or innocence of the Raja is a question quite independent of the question, whether Don Manoel was really concerned in the affair. It is possible that the name of the Viceroy was abused, and not utterly out of possibility that he was even personated on the occasion; but if the Raja believed that he was an intriguer with the Authorities of Goa against the British Government, the delinquency of his Highness remains the same.

221. Of the remaining Portuguese papers, *d* is a petition presented to the Viceroy, totally unconnected with the Goa intrigues, and which may therefore be passed over. The paper *c* contains articles of agreement of the affair. This appears to be a rough and imperfect draft, and is unauthenticated. From the tenor of this paper, however, supposing it genuine, it is clear that it originated with the Goa party, and contains heads of advice to the Raja from Don Manoel, which to us, who know the impracticability of the design indicated, must appear perfectly preposterous.

222. The following papers are of greater interest. That lettered *f* is an original note, purporting to be addressed to Nago Deorao by one Jao Rocha. This is dated the 24th May, without specifying any year. It contains the following remarkable passage: "Great disturbance prevails in Europe between three nations, English, French, and Russian, concerning their influence and interference with the other cabinets, and hence it is expected, enmities and war will arise. It is better, therefore, to have recourse to two, to put an end of the third, because the Englishmen are hated and disliked by the other two nations. The Russians are already near Persia; and I would send your worship the Gazette of that place, if I were not afraid that it would create suspicion; but know that it is necessary that the thing should be treated in Russia and France with the sovereigns themselves. The thing in which I am going to engage is of great importance, and attended with danger of life and no interest to myself. However, the ill-will, zeal, and great rancour I have for the Europeans, emboldens me to disregard my life, which I am not afraid to lose. This would appear to you as a boyish trick, but don't think so." We have no further account of the writer

writer of this letter. He subscribes himself Nago Deorao's "sincere friend and servant," and states, that he wishes to embark for Bengal at the end of the month. He further says, "from the calculations which I have made and the accounts from Europe, which are much to the purpose, I am certain that our affairs will go on well. The opportunity should not be lost, and haste is necessary."

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Governo
5 May 1838.

223. The paper *g* is an original note from Herculano de Neronha to Raojee Kotenees, dated Panjum, the 15th April 1834, respecting which the Kotenees has deposed as follows: "The paper marked *g* is written to me by Erculan, under date the 15th April 1834; it is the original, true paper. Nago Deorao gave in my presence a letter of the Sattara Raja in charge of Mu-dom-more, to deliver to the Viceroy, and told Erculan to give the answer to me, after which he returned to Pedney. I also went away to Araba, from whence I sent a note to Erculan; and this is his reply, namely, that the answer (to the Raja's letter) was not prepared, as the Governor was busy, but that I should send a man for it on Friday or Saturday, and after the Ramnowmee come myself, bringing Nana with me. I did not send for the letter, but Herculano sent the thely (letter in a bag) from the Viceroy to the Raja, which I sent to Nago Deorao at Korgaon." This note is of great importance, as proving, in my mind, that a genuine correspondence was maintained by the Governor and the Raja, and that Don Manoel was personally implicated in these intrigues; for there is no evident reason why Herculano should practise deception with his friend, the Kotenees, however much he might have been inclined to impose on the other parties. It also, I think, proves that the letters alleged to have been written by the Governor really proceeded from himself; for, on the supposition that these were forged by the subordinate agents, it would not have been said, in a confidential note from one of these agents to another, that the reason why the answer for Sattara was not prepared was because the Viceroy was too busy to prepare it, being occupied with papers from Macao.

224. The paper *h* is in Portuguese, and is apparently a translation of a letter in the name of the Raja of Sattara to the Viceroy of Goa. This is in reply to the Governor's letter of the 22d January 1833, already remarked on in the 214th paragraph of my minute, and after thanking him for the attention he had paid to his wishes, observes, "I beg to repeat to your Excellency, that my most ardent wishes have, on several occasions, put me in mind to consult your Excellency about sending the honoured Herculano de Neronha to the Court of Portugal, entrusted with the management of the affairs communicated to your Excellency, in view to his exposing, in the presence of his Catholic Majesty, my grievances, which I suffer from the British nation without a cause, and the usurpation of my kingdom, which has taken place some few years back, without any principle or treaty; on the contrary, against the laws and treaties among the civilized nations in Europe as well as Asia. Without cause nor fundament for the said extortion which they make of the right of my kingdom, they are in the continuation of practising robberies and assassinations among the miserable Asiatic people. This grieves my soul, to see the said people deprived of all their rights, without the means of maintaining themselves and their families. I have various vague accounts of the ambition of the British nation. They have been enabled to set the whole of Europe in discord, and to vitiate all the cabinets, by the distribution of money, without the least regard to their character or to the honour of the British nation. The king of the said nation lying buried in an abyss, they even forget that such a king exists, and forming what are called a company of the said British nation, which is nothing more than an aggregate of some politicians of the said nation, only to ruin the other nations, both European and Asiatic, they prohibit the negotiation, rights, and gain, of each nation. Thus I wanted to describe and to talk to your Excellency about that nation; but the honoured Nago Deorao, who is effectively at the order of your Excellency, will lay the whole in the presence of your Excellency personally." This paper is not authenticated, and I doubt whether, as supposed by Raojee Kotenees,

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Governor,
5 May 1838.

Kotenees, it is in reality a translation of one actually written by the Raja, or is merely a draft of one prepared by Herculano himself or some other person; but, however this may be, the custody whence it comes may warrant our considering it as illustrative of the views and feelings of the party who carried on the intrigue, and it is only in that light that I point it out to attention.

225. The last document, lettered *i*, is in the Portuguese language, and is a note dated the 25th July 1835, addressed to Nago Deorao. The writer's signature is illegible, but its contents are: "Friend and sir, I send you my Batigh Atmaram to speak to you. I beg you will receive him and serve as a friend, for which I shall be much obliged." In a P.S. the writer requests that his past account may be delivered, either in money, clothes, or other articles, and a receipt taken.

226. The second portion of the "Warree Papers" obtained from Balkoba Kelkur consists of thirty-eight Mahratta documents, numbered 1 to 38. It has already been clearly shewn, that these were in Nago Deorao's possession when he died; and, as may be observed respecting their genuineness individually, without reference to the evidence which applies to them generally, and which I have already considered, I will state what occurs to me on this head, and, at the same time, offer such remarks as each document may suggest.

227. No. 1 is an exact counterpart, in Mahratta, of the Portuguese letter of Don Manoel to the Raja, commented on in the 214th paragraph of this minute. Raojee Kotenees (22 list A.) says, "this is the original translation of a thely (letter in a bag) sent by the Viceroy Sahib to the Raja of Sattara. It is in the hand-writing of Sukharam Kamut, Doobhasee of the Goa government: his signature and mortub are on it." Dajeeba Waeed (No. 24 list A.) confirms the above, and states, that he is acquainted with the Doobhasee's hand-writing. Morapunt Josee (No. 26 list A.) deposes to the same effect; and Hurry Punt Fatuck, as was natural (for he never visited Goa), states, that he does not recognize the document. In his letter of the 15th February last, Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans remarks, "The Mahratta document itself is clearly an original paper. It is on Portuguese paper, and the body of the letter is written in the same hand-writing, which is of a very peculiar kind, as the signature, verifying it as a true translation. The signature itself is Shree Sukharam Narrain Sudaseo Kamut Werg, Doobhasee of Shree Launstan Shree Nugur Shree, Goa, and it is stamped at the end of these words with what is stated to be the seal of the interpreter." Thus authenticated, this document is of the first importance, not only as itself authenticating the letter in the Portuguese language (*a* of list E.), but also because it confirms the oral evidence, that it was usual that the letters from the Governor should be accompanied by a Mahratta version, not prepared by Nago Deorao or any of his associates, but by a public officer of the Goa government.

228. No. 2 is merely a copy of No. 1, in the hand-writing of Morapunt Josee, who states, "that Nana made him take a copy to keep with himself."

229. Nos. 3, 4, and 5, are stated to be original letters addressed by the Raja of Sattara to Don Manoel. Two of them are recognised by Hurry Punt Fatuck to be in the hand-writing of his son, Nana Fatuck, and this is confirmed by Narrain Bhutt Chitney. The third, No. 5, is acknowledged by Morapunt Josee to be in his own hand-writing; but he states, that it is a copy, and that the original was delivered to Don Manoel. In which statement he differs from Raojee Kotenees, who says that it is an original. Dajeeba Waeed deposes, that these four letters were among the papers returned to Nago Deorao by the Governor. (Vide Mr. Willoughby's Summary, BB. 3). Finally, all four are sealed with the sicca and mortub alluded to in the summary BB. 4.

230. The letter No. 3 is dated the 20th February 1831, and represents that Nago Deorao had formerly been deputed with a letter, and was fully conversant

SATTARA
PAPERS.Minute
by the Governor
5 May 1838.

sant with the whole matter; that the Raja's health was deranged, and that the Governor's "confidential person, Erculan Noray Son-lao-more, the Doctor," should therefore be sent to administer remedies. No. 4 is dated the 20th December 1830, and acknowledges the receipt of a letter from the Governor, in which he had stated, "Friendship has already existed between the two states: for the business every support will be given from here." The Raja comments on this, and says, that this friendship "has worn out on both sides, but has been renewed through the Governor's mediation;" and expresses his confidence, that "affairs here will be accomplished by the Goa Government," and that support and aid will be extended. In conclusion, he states that his affairs would be made known by the Rajushri Nago Deorao.

231. No. 5 is dated the 18th June 1833, and after alluding to a letter formerly sent by Erculan de Noray, who had been "verbally desired to make an intimation," but to which no answer had been received, the Raja states, that in consequence of this, Nago Deorao and Eshwunt Raojee had been "charged with the whole matter and had been despatched to Goa," and requests the Governor "to hear the matter fully, and to communicate in writing his sentiments, as to what is to be done about it for the future," that his (the Raja's) mind might be satisfied and invigorated. Finally, he writes, "we have numerous difficulties here. They have spoken some matters, which the above two persons will make known."

232. The documents Nos. 6, 7, and 8 are of high importance. They are all three identified by Hurry Punt Fatuck, as being in his son, Nana Fatuck's, hand-writing; and this is confirmed by Narrain Bhutt Chitney. No. 7 is dated the 14th December 1829, and is to this effect. "On your answer to the communication of this friend being received, the practicability of the exalted project desired by this friend, and the success of the objects, are apparent, which being written separately is herewith transmitted. This being taken into your most prudent consideration, what this friend has at present been deprived of may be restored, for this purpose laying it very cautiously before the padshah (king). To take such pains as may be necessary to forward its objects you are perfectly wise. Exert yourself without fail, and for the success of the whole: whatever may be done should be done with caution. Let your friendship and kindness remain, and may God preserve you for many years." No. 8 is evidently the enclosure to No. 7, and is a tuhnemeh, or treaty, of eleven articles, of the same date as the letter forwarding it, proposed to be entered into by the Raja of Sattara with "Vishwas Needhee Padshah Don Miguel, of the original State of Portugal," and the following is the substance of the agreement.

233. Art. 1st sets forth, that the English had swallowed up the Raja's dominions, and that, to aid in recapturing them, the king of Portugal is to furnish 30,000 troops, or such number as may be considered necessary, with gunpowder and shot. The Raja to defray their monthly pay, from the date of departure until the termination of the project, together with the expense of ships, sailors, and gunpowder and shot.

Art. 2d. After the territories, forts, districts, posts, and tributes held under the administration of Muhdhow Row Narrain* are recovered, the Raja agrees to retain 12,000 Portuguese troops, and to assign territory of the annual value of one crore of rupees for their support, and the honorary treatment of the Padshah.

Art. 3d. Prisoners captured during the war to be dealt with as both parties may consent.

Art. 4th. Native stores captured to belong to the Raja; European stores to be divided between both parties.

Art. 5. Of whatever new country may be taken, exclusive of that which was held by Mahdhow Row Narrain, a third share is to be given to Portugal.

Art. 6th. The Portuguese ports and country in the possession of the English to be recaptured and made over to Portugal.

Art. 7th

* He was born in April 1774, and died in October 1795.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Governor,
5 May 1838.

Art. 7th. Refugees from the country of one party not to be admitted in the country of the other party without consent.

Art. 8th. After war has commenced, should the English sue for peace, nothing is to be done except by mutual consent, and no peace should be concluded separately.

Art. 9th. This *tulnameh* is transmitted to you (Don Miguel), with other papers, through Don Manoel de Portugal e Castro, Governor and Capitao-general of Goa, in whom we have full confidence, in order to relieve our ryots, who have been much ruined by the English.

Art. 10th. The Raja to prepare and send any native stores which may be required to the Governor General. Friendship to continue between the parties for ever; and any other stipulations, "tending to the prosperity of both states," to be proposed by the King of Portugal, and taken into consideration by the Raja.

Art. 11th. No treaty to be concluded or negotiations entered into with any European or Native State, except with the sanction of the two States of Portugal and of the Chutraputtee (Raja of Sattara).

234. The letter No. 6 is not in its proper place, and should have been No. 8; for it must be regarded as a supplemental article of the treaty. It is of the same date as 7 and 8, and in it the Raja writes, "When the intentions of the '*tulnamehs* (agreements) separately sent to you are accomplished, in order that friendship may continue as long as the sun and moon endure, out of our own grace and of our own free will, we agree to grant you a territory worth five lacs of rupees per annum."

235. These three documents are sealed with the *sicca* and *mortu* delivered up with Nago Deorao's papers; and Dajeeba Waeed states, that they were among the papers given back to Nago by Don Manoel at Vingorla. Raojee Kotenees states, that No. 8 is the "original *tulnameh* sent by the Raja of Sattara to the Viceroy of Goa, to forward to the King of Portugal. On reference to the oral evidence (Summary AA. 1) it will have been seen, that almost the first step taken by the agents employed in these intrigues was to draw up "a *yad* of stipulations" at Sattara, which Nago Deorao took to Goa. I have observed in a former part of this minute, that this *yad* probably underwent variations; but, in one shape or another, several of the witnesses depose to having seen the document, and one of them to having copied it for the Swamee of Sunkeshwur. It is also clearly proved that Nana Fatuck,* in whose hand-writing No. 8 is, was sent to Goa in 1829; and this person is proved to have taken a very active part in the intrigues at their commencement, and more especially about the period of Herculano's mission to Sattara in June 1831; and, as his father states that he died in August 1832, it is clear that the document now produced must have existed before that time, and cannot therefore have been recently fabricated to injure the Raja.

236. On the whole, I am of opinion that these documents are genuine. The designs which they develop are highly preposterous; and the Goa authorities, whatever their views or motives in lending any countenance to such a scheme, must have known that its success, except under a conjunction of circumstances out of all rational contemplation, was quite impossible. Even the Raja himself could only, by a considerable degree of self-delusion, have been blinded to the absurdity of his plans; but unless it is to be held that no weight or concurrence of evidence can possibly establish the fact of his having entertained so senseless a project, I see no reason to doubt the fact; and, on the contrary, firmly believe that the draft of the treaty of the 14th December 1829, exhibits the real mind of his Highness, and contains the conditions on which he proposed, and eagerly desired to form, an alliance with the King of Portugal.

237. No.

* It appears from the evidence of Balkoba Kelkur, that rivalry and jealousy existed between Nana Fatuck and Nago Deorao. This witness, with reference to Herculano's mission, states, "Nana Fatuck, with the desire of obtaining greatness for himself, said to Nana Waeed, 'The Maharaj's wish is, that before the business is completed, you should not come;' and he said to the Maharaj, 'Before the business is accomplished, Nana Waeed says he will not come to Sattara.' Thus he mentioned on both sides in different ways; but, on my intimating the matter to Nana, he also 'came with them.'"

SATTARA
PAPERS.Minute
by the Governor
5 May 1838.

237. No. 9 is an original letter from the Raja to the Governor of Goa, dated the 15th January 1835. It acknowledges a letter from the Governor of the 15th May, in which he had written, "As soon as an answer comes from the principal place it will be communicated." The Raja then observes, "Here the enemy has given the news of the principal place, which has caused apprehensions and many suspicions, and the Vakeel has been written to to communicate them. You being a perfect friend will do all that is conducive to my prosperity, but *at present all things have assumed a different aspect, and the affair here being very delicate, at some time may tend to my ruin.* Who are my foes is already known to you, therefore, *in order that the intentions of the purpose here may not transpire at all,* DELIVER UP ALL THE PAPERS which may appertain here to the confidential Vakeels of this Government, Nago Deorao and Eshwunt Row (Raojee Kotences). It is not your wish that any mishap should befall me. Being so convinced, *any thing which may give a trace to the enemy should not be done;* therefore, whatever is secret keep in your mind, and contribute to my easiness (of mind). A communication of several paragraphs is addressed to the Vakeels, to which return replies, and "I will adopt means accordingly." In conclusion, the Governor is invited to attend the marriage of the Raja's daughter; and the Raja states "that he is anxious for an interview," and promises to make provision for the Governor's journey.

238. The above is a very important document. It confirms the statement of the witnesses, as to the manner in which the original letters of the Raja to the Governor returned to Nago Deorao. It does, however, more; for it explains, as I think, the feelings which led the Raja, or rather Nago, as his agent, to reclaim the letters. I call this the immediate act of Nago, because, from the evidence of Dajceba, who wrote the letter, it clearly appears that Nago directed it to be written, under the general power which, as the witness declares, the Maharaj had delegated to him of writing and giving papers. "Nago Deorao and Eshwunt Raojee," the witness adds, "having drawn out a rough draft at Rybunder, gave it to me, according to which I wrote it." Allowing, however, for the reserve which disguises all Asiatic correspondence, the letter seems to me to express very discoverably, the alarm which the agents in the intrigue must have experienced at the revolution which had just taken place in Goa, consequent, as it was, on one in Portugal. The bad news alluded to was plainly the supersession of Don Manoel by Bernardo Perez de Silva, who assumed charge on the 14th January 1835, only the day before the letter bears date. Don Manoel was now only the discarded servant of a discarded master. The treaty of 1829, which was in terms drawn up between the Raja and Don Miguel, became worthless, even supposing it executed by the latter. The letter might well say that "all things had assumed a different aspect;" for at that moment, the parties must have thought all their schemes hopeless, and their past labours abortive. Under such circumstances, it seems natural enough that they should be anxious to get back the substantial proofs of their guilt, which the ex-Viceroy possessed, and which, though powerless to serve, might, in case of accident, be effectual to betray him. By what consideration, either occurring to themselves or suggested to them by the other party concerned, they were subsequently led to prolong the connexion with the ex-Viceroy, it is impossible to say decisively. Perhaps a remarkable paper (No. 16 of List E.), which will hereafter be noticed, may be considered as throwing some light on the subject. Certain it is, that the intrigue was, after all, continued, or perhaps we may rather say, resumed; for any efforts that might still be made by Don Manoel to serve them must have reference to a very different state of things, and their plans would have to be modified accordingly.

239. If it should be said, that it seems very strange that Don Manoel, or whoever acted for him, should have consented to give back the Raja's papers, without exacting the restoration of his own in return, I observe, as before, that our business is not to account for actions, but to prove them. I do not, however, think the circumstance so strange as it may at first sight appear. Goa was at that time a scene of trouble. The ex-Viceroy was at Vingorla,

SATTARA
PAPERS

Minute
by the Governor,
5 May 1838.

anxiously watching for the means of an immediate departure for Europe. To obtain the return of his own letters from the Raja would have been a work of time: it could be effected only by a special mission to Sattara, two hundred miles distant. In this position, it is very supposeable that he should have yielded to the importunity of Nago, who is proved to have made the application in person, without insisting on a condition to which he might probably attach very little importance; for it is to be observed, that there was no equality between the situations of the two parties. To the ex-Viceroy detection might be inconvenient; to the Raja it was ruin irremediable. For that very reason, indeed, his Highness was sure to keep the letters pretty safely. Nor, after all, is it proved, that every paper without exception was given back. It is possible enough, that the ex-Viceroy might retain one or more, as a protection to himself in an extreme case. I give this, not as actual explanation of facts which I have no means of explaining, but merely to shew, that there is no such inherent improbability in the statement, as should make us hesitate to receive it when attested by competent evidence.

240. Nos. 10 and 11 are two letters dated the 26th July 1836, dictated by Nago Deorao, four days before his death, from Warree; the first to the Raja of Sattara; the second addressed jointly to Hurry Punt Fatuck, Raojee Kotenees, and Narrain Bhutt Chithey. In his letter to the Raja, after alluding to communications sent by Raojee Koteness and Narrain Bhutt, and to two "humble" "supplications and a horse formerly sent," the writer states, that his sickness had increased, and that being overcome by disease, and convinced that he would never see the Raja's feet again, he had written a supplication, and having intimated all to Balcrishna Ragoonath and Moro Bullal Josee, he had sent them to the presence. After this preamble, Nago prefers the five following requests:

1st. That the offerings and perpetual lamp of the Deo of Shree Reven-sidh may constantly continue.

2d. That a debt due from him to the shop at Revensidh may be paid.

3d. That his children, who are young and ignorant, may be provided for, and protected, as the Raja may think proper.

4th. That the pledge to liquidate the debt due by the late Chintoram be fulfilled.

5th. That a provision be made for Dajeeba Waecd, who has been with me for two or three years, has much exerted himself, and has been of infinite service during my sickness.

Having made the above requests, he concludes thus: "The master has hitherto "provided for me in every way, and will do so hereafter; therefore, taking this "supplication into consideration, the master is powerful to make a provision. "The papers and stamps have been delivered into the charge of Balcrishna Ragoo-nath. By the virtuous actions of the master the affair will be accomplished; "but myself, being unfortunate, I am bereft of the feet. Never mind, Shree "Sidraj will bless the master with constant prosperity."

241. In his letter to his three coadjutors, Nago Deorao informs them, that since their departure, his distemper daily increasing, and his constitution getting very weak, being overcome with disease and despairing of recovery, he had written a humble supplication, which they were to present and get the whole of the arrangements made. Nago then observes: "He will comply, "of which I am assured. Balumbhutjee, Balkoba Tatia, Dajeeba Waecd, "and, Morapunt Dajee, will communicate all the matter. In short, remem-bering how you and myself have hitherto behaved, take care of all the "mundullee, and see them all conduct themselves with one unanimous concern, "and the affair, through the grace of Shree Sidh, should be accomplished by "the exertions of all. The Deo being favourable will crown it with success; "to accomplish his own affair, it depends on Shree Deo. My desire was, "that the affair might succeed, and all, with pleasing consideration, might "be ready in the service of the Deo. Persevering in it, you should, by the "command of the Shree, accomplish it: he will have favour. Do not desert

"Dajeeba Waeed ; and it rests with you all to fulfil the pledge given by me to Many Babjee Wittul. Let your kind regard remain."

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Governor
5 May 1838.

242. Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans very naturally calls our particular attention to these documents, which, if their authenticity be established, are, I conceive, of themselves, quite sufficient to prove whose agent Nago Deorao really was in the Goa affair. On the point of their authenticity, few who read the account of the death-bed scene, as given by eye-witnesses, which the papers contain, and which will be found faithfully extracted in the summary of evidence BB. 1, will entertain any doubt. That summary, however, does not contain the direct evidence to the hand-writing and identity of the letters, which therefore I deem it proper to extract entire. Morapunt Josec says, "These two letters (Nos. 10 and 11) are in my hand-writing. Nana (Nago) made me write them at the time of his death. Both letters are completed by Nana himself with his own hand." Balkoba Kelkur says, "I have looked at the paper No. 10: it is the same letter which Nana, at the time of his death, left with me to give to the Maharaj." Dajeeba Waeed says, "These two papers (Nos. 10 and 11) are in the hand-writing of Morapunt Josec, and *Sidharaj*, near *Shri*, and *Vidmapurah*, at the end, these words are in the hand-writing of Nago Deorao. These are the same papers which were written at the time of his death!" Raojee Kotences says, "The papers Nos. 10 and 11 are in Morapunt Josec's hand-writing. No. 10 seems begun and completed in the hand-writing of Nago Deorao, and No. 11 is completed by him. I now see them for the first time." Hurry Punt Patuck says, "The papers 10 and 11 are written by Morapunt Josec, and near *Shri*, and at the end have been completed by Nana Waeed. I did not see either of these letters before." Lastly, Narrain Bluff Chitney says, "The paper No. 10 is written to the Maharaj by Nago Deorao, in the hand-writing of Morapunt Josec. It appears to have been begun near *Shri*, and to have been completed at the end by Nana himself. No. 11 is also written by Morapunt, and begun and finished by Nana Waeed in his own hand-writing."

243. Independently of this mass of evidence in support of the authenticity of these documents, the contents of the letters are just such as might have been expected. What more natural than the supplication of the dying man in favour of the shrine of Revensidh, which he is proved to have constantly visited during the progress of the intrigue; and for the payment of a debt which he had contracted in that service? What more natural than his petitions in behalf of his children, and of the nephew, who during the last two or three years of his life had been his constant companion, and his condutor in the service of the person addressed? What more natural, than that he should request his master to redeem a pledge which he had made to Chintoram (Chintapunt), the uncle of Morapunt Josec, who may be said to have died in the cause which both had embraced. The letters prove, also, the zeal of Nago in the cause, and his confidence of ultimate success, and are entitled to that credit due to documents originating from a person who touched the closing moment of life, and who, under a solemn consciousness of his situation, was expressing his last wishes in confidential communion with his intimate friends. A combination of the most extraordinary circumstances has placed these letters in our possession; but nothing could be farther from the intention of the writer, than that they should fall under any eyes but those of the persons addressed, and especially of his master and patron.

244. These letters are, in another view, curious, as indirectly confirming facts elicited from the general body of the evidence. It is to be observed, that the three persons jointly addressed by Nago in the second letter, together with the four persons then at his bedside, and to whom he refers for a fuller communication of his sentiments, exactly constituted all that then survived of the *mundallee*, of whom he had long been the acknowledged head. It was not likely that he should comprise in his address Mahdeo Row Sirkey, who had only very recently been admitted into the affair, who is proved to have

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Governor,
5 May 1838.

had no friendly feelings towards Nago,* and who was admitted rather as a check on him than an assistant. His making no mention of that person, therefore, is not inconsistent with the general tenor of the narration, while his specific mention of the other seven, and his earnest exhortation to the three addressed, to "take care of all the *mundullee* and see them all conduct themselves with one unanimous consent," adding, "and the affair, through the grace of Shri Sidh, should be accomplished by the exertions of all," indirectly confirms the account given by several other witnesses, as to who were the principal associates of Nago in the active management of the intrigue. At the commencement of the letter, also, he makes a distinction between Hurry Punt and the other two persons addressed, which is observable. The other two, separately from Hurry Punt, are told that, "*since this event*," the distemper daily increased. The evidence, as might be expected, shews that both Raojee Kotenees and Narrain Bhutt Chittcy had recently been with Nago in the Goa country, and the latter had even seen him at Warree where he died, whereas Hurry Punt is known never to have stirred from Sattara.

245. I have another observation to offer on these letters, which I think not immaterial. Both of them, but especially No. 11, bespeak a confidence in the ultimate success of the intrigue, founded on religious feelings, which is very remarkable. He declares that the Shri Deo will crown it with success; that the Deo will "*accomplish his own affair*;" that the party should all be "*ready in the service of the Deo*." These expressions may indicate the leading motive of this indefatigable agent. It was apparently not ambition, or avarice, or simple fidelity to an engagement; it was a persuasion that he was labouring in a sacred and meritorious enterprize, and one under the immediate protection of the divinity, in honour of whom it had been undertaken. That he should have entertained this belief is quite consistent with the known fact, that the undertaking had originally been suggested to him by the Swamee of Sunkeshwur, a person deeply interested in the support of the Hindu religion; while it, at the same time, may explain both the ardour and the confidence of the agent, in the preservation of a purpose which, on all rational principles, he must have felt to be desperate. It is, indeed, impossible to witness the satisfaction which Nago, on his death-bed, evinces at the recollection of his own exertions in carrying on this perfidious intrigue, and the calm, but sanguine hope, which he expresses of its ultimate success through the favour of Shri Deo, without sincerely wishing that so much zeal and energy had been devoted to a better faith and a worthier cause.

246. The letters Nos. 12 and 13, dated the 15th *Mohurram* (26th June) and 1st *Zelte* (15th April), but no year mentioned, purport to be originals from the Raja to Don Manoel. The first announces the arrival of Herculano, who came in charge of a letter, and states, that he had been informed of the state of health, for which remedies should be devised. Nago Deorao, it is added, and Eshwunt Ram Krushna (Raojee) will be despatched. They will explain all, and medicines should be appointed; they will explain the rest. The second acknowledges the receipt of a letter from the Governor, stating that Erculan had gone on public duty, and that he should be sent as soon as he returned, and congratulates Don Manoel on having received some new title, the news of which had afforded the writer indescribable pleasure. It concludes by observing, that Nago Deorao, who was always near the Governor, would communicate with him.

247. These letters are sealed like the rest, and are stated by Dajeeba Waed to have been among those returned by the Governor to Nago Deorao. They are proved to be in the hand-writing of Nana Fatuck by the evidence of Hurry Punt Fatuck, Narrain Bhutt Chittcy, and Morapunt Josce, consequently they must have been written before August 1832, when he died; and as Herculano's mission undoubtedly occurred in June 1831, the correct dates are probably the 15th of April and 26th June† of that year. No. 12 must, I think, be taken figuratively, not in reality referring to the health of the

* Evidence on the paper No. 35.

† The meeting, it will be recollected, occurred on or about the 19th June 1831.

SATTARA
PAPERS.Minute
by the Governor
5 May 1838

the Raja himself but to that of his state. On the former supposition, no reason appears why the agents at Goa should enter into explanations with the Governor on the subject: at the same time, it is probable enough that an allusion was intended to the professional character of Herculano. It will be recollected, that in the letter inviting that person to Sattara (see above, paragraph 230) it was expressly said, that he was to administer remedies to his Highness. This would, perhaps, have been made the pretext for his visit, had he been detected at the time. The letter No. 13, which was the earlier written of the two, corroborates the oral evidence of Narrain Bhutt Chitney and Raojee Kotences, both of whom state, that when Nana Fatuck proceeded to Goa to conduct Herculano to Sattara, he was told that Herculano was absent, and should be sent when he returned. The allusion to the Governor's new title is also founded in fact; for I am informed, that when he first arrived in India he was only Governor and Captain-General, but that, in 1831, he was by the government of Don Miguel appointed Viceroy of Goa and its dependencies.

248. No. 14 is a paper without date, containing apparently requisitions from the Governor of Goa to the Raja of Sattara. It is proved by Hurry Punt Fatuck and Narrain Bhutt Chitney to be in Nana Fatuck's hand-writing, and Raojee Kotences states, that he saw it in Nago Deorao's possession. It is a curious document, calling for information under nineteen heads, exactly of that nature which the Governor might be supposed anxious to receive, previously to his embarking his country in hostilities on behalf of the Raja. It must not, therefore, be inferred, that he entertained any such design. The document, from its nature, does not admit of abbreviation, but one of the requisitions is too remarkable to be passed over in silence. The fifteenth requisition is as follows: "In what way was the present treaty with the Maharaj concluded; what is the nature of the arrangement respecting him; what is the extent of his sovereignty; *what was the first promise made*; who possesses the sovereignty over the rest of the Prudhans, and how do they conduct themselves? After carefully ascertaining, this should be written." The interrogatory I have underlined clearly proves, that, in the intercourse with Goa, complaint must have been made of a breach of faith on our part, when our existing treaty with the Raja was framed; and it is very important to observe, that this infamous and unfounded charge against British honour is to be traced in documents which we have received from the advocate of the Raja, Dr. Milne, the late President of the Bombay Medical Board.

249. No. 15 is also a remarkable document. It is headed in Portuguese and Mahratta, "Instructions;" and these are said to have been verbally communicated to the Raja's agents, and afterwards committed to writing by Dajeeba Waced according to their dictation. It consists of nine heads.

1st. The Raja is recommended to turn his attention to the promotion of commerce.

2d. To cause ten persons in each village to be intrusted "in cannonading and military discipline," annually to inspect them, and to treat them with honour and distinction.

3d. To maintain a friendly intercourse with the ruler of Goa, through whom troops and stores may be landed; for, it is added, "*this is the only door in this country for your people to Europe.*" The Governor assigns reasons why he could not introduce the Raja to his successor, namely, "He is not of my rank, being a native of this country, standing in the favour of the Elder Master (Don Pedro)."

4th. To keep always in view the preservation of unanimity among all Sawustances and Sirdars (kings and chiefs), as far as the Sikhs. "I have intimated," he says, "to the principal station, that you are Master of all the Hindoos."

5th. To translate and read twice a-day "histories of Bonaparte, and other valiant and intelligent kings and chiefs who distinguished themselves

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Governor,
5 May 1838

"selves, and who, by their courage, overcame their enemies and conquered temporary states, and gained the highest glory."

6th. To establish a school like one at Goa.

7th. "Your Senaputtee, and the high Sirdars below him, should be taught our discipline, and the books which exist regarding the managing of an army, after converting them into the Hindoo language. The books of your enemy can, if required, be procured: those and ours are of a similar description."

8th. The Raja is advised to take into his service, some Portuguese soldiers of artillery and infantry, about to return home on furlough. It is added, however, "but your enemy will take offence at this; for, even if a few remain in your country, they will be found by them to be formidable, therefore the matter is communicated to the Vakeel."

9th. To befriend Raojee Kotenees; "for when," says the writer, "I depart from my own country, it will be obligatory on him to retire to a remote place, as I cannot introduce him to the new Governor. I intend soon, according to your wishes, to return to this country."

250. The evidence in support of this document is as follows. Dajeeba Waced says, "This is my hand-writing. The matter which Don Manoel mentioned to Nana and Raojee Kotenees to communicate to the Maharaj, they both made me take down in writing." Raojee Kotenees says, "the intimations which were to be made to the Raja of Sattara from the Viceroy Sahib, these were committed to a *yad* by Nana Waced: this is that *yad*." In his cross-examination, Raojee further says, "Nago went to Vingorla to the Viceroy and conversed with him. I did not go there; but Nago informed me, *yads* of their conversation were caused to be written by Dajeeba Waced, either at Araba or Rybundur. These were afterwards explained to the Raja, first by Nago Deorao, and secondly by myself." Hurry Punt Patuck says, "Formerly, Raojee Kotenees said to me, Don Manoel, by way of instruction, has made and given a *yad* for the Maharaj, but I did not see the *yad* there. I see it now, and it is of the same nature as Raojee Kotenees mentioned, and the Kotenees explained it to the Maharaj in my presence." Morapunt Josee says, "The matter written in them (15 and 16) was explained by Raojee Kotenees to the Maharaj, in my presence, in A.D. 1835-36." I think, therefore, that there can be little doubt that this paper is really founded on some verbal communication which took place between the Raja's agents and the Governor of Goa, when the latter was making his preparations to return to Europe.

251. No. 16 is another paper of the same description as No. 15. It consists of seven paragraphs, and is headed, "Substance of the Instructions received from the Head Nation."

The 1st paragraph states, that the "Junior Master (Don Miguel) has prepared troops for the success of your (of course, the Raja's) affair; but, through some contrivance of the English (who are styled *your enemy*), had been embroiled with his elder brother, and after much fighting had retired to a remote state. He is accompanied by the highest Sirdars of the state. Doug de Cadawal is deeply interested in the cause of your object, and my brother Marques de Wallis (Valencia)."

Paragraph 2 states that, in consequence of an intimation from Don Miguel, who was deeply interested in the success of the purpose, the Russians and Austrians, according to the previous plan, were prepared to invade India. "But the road to visit your country runs through the territories of Sham and Rome.* Settle by what way they should come, and what Sirdar of yours will receive them; and, as soon as the armies reach your Sirdar within your boundary line, the expenses should be provided for."

3d. (in substance.) In reference to the present agreement, stating, "Come

* شام means Syria; روم the Turkish empire.

“ Come by sea ; Goa being now in the possession of the elder brother, there is no landing there. Name some other port.”

4th. “ I have explained to the Vakeel, that the expenses of coming by sea would be very considerable.”

5th. “ Troops are ready to come by land or by sea, as you may appoint, but I am directed to bring with me a good and respectable Vakeel. Send one, and when he arrives, the suringam (army) shall be sent. He should be provided with statements of the stores, &c. required. If I were here, a Vakeel would not be required.”

6th. Repeats his requisition for a Vakeel.

7th. Alludes to his being at a foreign station, “ to which the Vakeel is to be sent.” Exhorts the Raja to persevere stedfastly in his designs. The paper concludes thus :—“ Thus, in several paragraphs, and by word of mouth, I have made a communication to the Vakeel, being substance of the instructions received from the head station, which should be immediately taken into consideration by you, and immediately dispatch the Vakeel together with another person. Besides this, something tending to the prosperity of the samasthan (state) has been communicated.”

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Governor,
5 May 1838.

252. The authenticity of this document rests on nearly the same evidence as that of No. 15. Dajeeba Waced states, that he committed it to writing at the dictation of Nana Waced and Raojee Kotenees. The latter states, that the instructions were issued by Don Manoel ; and Morapunt Josee, what is the next material circumstance of all, that they were explained by the Kotenees to the Maharaj in his presence. The contents, in my opinion, prove, that they must have proceeded from some one well informed of events in Portugal, and which, we are aware, led to the supersession of Don Manoel in the government of Goa by Bernardo Peres da Silva ; and with regard to the object of the paper, supposing it to represent truly a communication intended by the ex-Viceroy for the Raja, it may be considered as an ingenious attempt to explain the delay which had already taken place in the fulfilment of the hopes cherished by his Highness, while, at the same time, it lays good ground for explaining a further delay of the same kind to an indefinite extent.

253. Nos. 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, and 24, may be classed together. They are the private and confidential letters of the agents engaged in the intrigues, addressed to Nago Deorao, and are admitted, in each case, by the persons who wrote them to be genuine and original. They afford undoubted evidence of the mode in which the Raja communicated with Nago, and corroborate, in many particulars, the principal transactions deposed to by the witnesses. Three of them, 17, 20, and 21, dated respectively the 5th October 1834, 2d December 1835, and 4th March 1836, were written by Hurry Punt Fatuck. The first of these may be soon dismissed. It is unimportant, except as proving the connexion of the parties with the banker, Teejeeram. It is in the hand-writing of a person named Bhicajee Abhajeeram, “ who * is a servant of the Maharaj, an inhabitant of Sattara, employed on the duties of Shekdar in the Kurud Petta, and a friend of mine (Hurry Punt Fatuck’s) and of Narrain Bhutt Chitney.”

254. The second of Hurry Punt’s letters is important in two respects : first, in proving the mission of Mahdeo Row Sirkey to Goa, and secondly, in alluding to Soopojec, the feigned name of Rowlojee Naik, who conveyed funds from the Raja to the banker Teejeeram. Hurry Punt acknowledges this letter to be in his hand-writing,† and thus explains its meaning : “ Mahdeo Row Sirkey was introduced to Don Manoel by Nago Deorao, on account of the plot with Goa. Afterwards it was arranged, that the Waced and the Sirkey should come together to Sattara. The Waced, however, came first, and having met the Maharaj went away. The Sirkey followed, and

* *Utile* evidence of Hurry Punt Fatuck, confirmed by Narrain Bhutt Chitney and Teejeeram.

† This is confirmed by Dajeeba Waced, Morapunt Josee, Narrain Bhutt Chitney, and Teejeeram.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Governor,
5 May 1836.

“ and I and he having met, a conversation passed, and with Soopjee, that
“ is with Rowlojee Naik, a conversation took place regarding the Rs. 8,000
“ which the Maharaj had ordered to be given to Nago Deorao to send a man
“ with Don Manoel.”

255. The third letter is also of importance, as placing beyond doubt the loss of the hoondees for Rupees 4,000, alluded to in the 105th paragraph of this minute, and of duplicates being furnished to Balkoba Kelkur. This is also acknowledged by Hurry Punt to have been written* by himself, and is thus explained: “ As the hoondees were stolen, Dajeeba Waeed was sent to Sattara by Nana Waeed, but as the money had not been received at Teejeeram’s, Teejeeram said he would give it when the money came from Rowlojee Naik. Afterwards the Waeed sent Balkoba to say that the affair would be successful; on which Teejeeram gave hoondees for Rupees 3,500, which amount came from Rowlojee Naik, and is credited in the account of Teejeeram.” This letter proves the zeal and earnestness with which the writer laboured in the cause he had espoused. “ You have now urgently written,” he observes, “ for the hoondees, and Balkoba Tatia has mentioned the whole matter, that the affair would be ruined if the money does not come, therefore the Bae has forwarded hoondees for 3,500 rupees. Expend the money in such manner as the affair of the master can be successful; if a thousand or five hundred more be required it matters not. If nothing of this be done, a charge of ingratitude will be attached: no room will be left to shew the face in; and what calamity may befall cannot be conceived. Therefore, keeping the feet of the master in view, all, with unanimous effort, do that by which his affair may be effected. Here we have many enemies. In fine, pay attention to the business, and none should mind his own livelihood. Perfectly settling the matter, Rowlojee Dada and yourself should come soon. Shew this letter to Rowlojee.” In further elucidation of the above remittance, I beg to refer to Sukhoba Waeed’s account with Teejeeram for Sumvut 1892 (1835-36), where will be found the following entries. On the credit side, “ Kartek vud 30th (20th November 1835), cash through the hands of Bhavo from Doordee, Rupees 4,000.” “ Paush sood 5th (24th December 1835), cash through the hands of Bhugwundoss from Soopajee, Rupees 1,990.” “ Paush vud 14th (17th January 1836), cash from Doordee through Bhugwundoss, Rupees 1,000.” “ Adek sood 5th (19th June 1836), through the hands of Doordejee, Rupees 500.” And on the debit side, “ Falgoon vud 7th (9th March 1836), through the hands of Balkoba Kelkur, two hoondees on Bombay on Vishnoodoss Bhugwundoss, Rupees 4,000, and exchange thereon, Rupees 240.” (*Vide* No. 1 of list C. of Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens’s report of the 11th November 1837.)

256. Three of these letters (Nos. 18, 19, and 22) are from Narrain Bhutt Chitney to Nago Deorao; the two first being dated the 5th October and 3d December 1834, the last without date. They are all acknowledged by the writer, who explains No. 18 to be the paper “ which he causes to be written to Nana Waeed, in the hand-writing of Bhicajee Abbajee Ram. It means— “ Do not draw the notes publicly. A publicity obtains. The colt is sent. “ Write a letter and give it to Don Manoel, to attend the nuptials of Gojra Salib† here. To the mootih (chief) the matter has been made known. As “ Rowlojee Naik communicated the Maharaj’s order, so I wrote in the letter.” No. 19, Nana says in his letter, is in the handwriting of Bhicajee Abbajee Ram, and alludes to a pair of shawls and turban of the value of 170 rupees, presented by the Maharaj to Nago Deorao as a wedding present. He states, that the nuptials were performed on the 2d Pood, and describes the bridegroom. No. 22 is also in Narrain’s handwriting, in reply to a note from Nago, requesting some kinkub for boys. The two lines at the bottom are written by Teejeeram. The banker confirms this; and in regard to Bhicajee Abbajee Ram, states, “ He lives in Sattara: he is a friend of Narrain Bhutt “ and of Hurry Punt. Narrain Bhutt, the Ram, and myself went to Goa. As “ the

* Confirmed by Dajeeba Waeed, Morapunt Josee, Narrain Bhutt Chitney, and Teejeeram.

† The Raja of Sattara’s daughter.

SATTARA
PAPERS.Minute
by the Governor
5 May 1838.

" the Chitney's handwriting is not good, he may have made the Ram write the letters. The Ram is a servant of the Maharaj Sirkar, employed as shekdar in the Kurud Petta." The above explains the nature of these letters, and I shall only draw attention to the following extract from No. 19, as one of the many proofs of the Raja of Sattara being personally concerned in those intrigues. " The contents of the letter of the 19th are understood, but they are not such as he may believe them. You and Raojee are about to come. You should not come over the Ghaut for the present, so it has been clearly said. Bring Raojee, so it was said, and he must arrive on the 25th December 1834. The Swaree is to proceed on the 31st December into the districts for the jumabundy, therefore Raojee should come quickly."

257. The two remaining letters of the series (23 and 24) are acknowledged by the banker, Teejceram, to be in his handwriting, and to have been addressed by him to Nago Deorao.* This person thus explains the meaning of No. 23: " To take hoondes Nago Deorao sent Dajecba Waeed." On this I wrote an answer thus: " The affair below the Ghaut (*i. e.* Goa) cannot at present be affected. So to the head (*meaning the Maharaj*) it is known, in consequence of which the Maharaj gave directions to Rajushree Bhaee (*meaning Hurry Punt Bhaoo*) which he has written to you. Therefore the hoondes are not sent, and both you and Raojee should come very soon. If the business (*meaning the affair connected with Goa*) can be done, and if you are so convinced, send an intimation to the Bhaoo, then the Bhaoo taking the money will come to you." In the letter 24, the banker states that he has sent hoondes for Rupees 4,000 by Balkoba Kelkur.

258. No. 25 is an exact copy of the letter No. 4, dated the 20th December 1830 addressed by the Raja of Sattara to Don Manoel, and already explained in the 229th and 230th paragraphs of this minute. This copy is proved by Hurry Punt Fatuck† to be in Nana Fatuck's hand-writing, consequently it must have been in existence previous to the month of August 1832, when Nana Fatuck died.

259. No. 26 purports to be the copy of a letter addressed by Don Manoel to the Raja of Sattara, dated from Goa the 20th August 1832. This acknowledges the receipt of two letters from the Raja, dated the 25th June 1831 and 19th March 1832, and states that Nago Deorao and Eshwunt Raojee, " coming personally in the Huzoor," had given pleasant accounts of the Raja's health and happiness. The Governor then observes: " To be of service to the Sahib Raja is my pure desire, and therefore, by the first opportunity, I will communicate the intentions of the Raja to the Huzoor of the Padshah (King); and in order that the King may be of great service to the Raja, and that the greatest assistance may be rendered, I will communicate without delay whatever answer may come from thence." Morapunt Josee admits this paper to be in his handwriting, and states it to be " Copy of the translation of a letter to the Maharaj from Don Manoel;" and Hurry Punt Fatuck, Dajecba Waeed, and Narrain Bhutt Chitney, all agree that it was written by the Josee.

260. No. 27 is copy of a letter from Juwan Coorvee Pertius Bituo Coor to Bulwunt Row Rajey, Senaputtee of Sattara, dated from Panjum the 9th February 1833. This is in reply to one from the Senaputtee of the 27th December 1832. The writer apologizes for not having written before the particulars in consequence of want of leisure, from being always engaged in the service of his master, the Viceroy Capita-General; but states that he had frequently desired Nago Deorao to write on his part what was necessary. The writer is, of course, the Mugdoo-more Murdomo, or Major Domo, alluded to in the depositions of the witnesses in this case. He then observes, " As in your letter regret has appeared, I avail myself of some short leisure to write that the Viceroy Sahib, being sensible of the sincere friendship of the Maharaj, remembers him every moment, and I also make representations when necessary; but

" as

* Confirmed by Dajecba Waeed, Morapunt Josee, Narrain Bhutt Chitney, and Hurry Punt Fatuck.

† Confirmed by Narrain Bhutt Chitney.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Governor,
5 May 1838.

“ as the success of your plan depends on the exertions of the *other senior master*, even if any delay occurs, the time becoming favourable a proof of it will be forthcoming. In the last few days a ship from Portugal has arrived, and Nago Deorao has been informed of the news she has brought, and will explain it. Another ship, also, will come and will bring pleasant tidings, for which I am waiting. Nago Deorao and Eshwunt Raojee have obtained the Viceroy’s perfect favour, and have enjoyed his fullest confidence. Exerting themselves for the business, they have retained a remembrance of the same : there appears no other such indefatigable and trustworthy persons. And I also have been exerting myself along with them in support of the object, as desired. Good will be done to Erculan de Noray. I am ready here for your’s and the Maharaj’s service.”

261. In support of the authenticity of this paper, Raojee Kotenees says, “ It is a copy of a letter sent by Mugdoom-more to the Senaputtee. Its original was sent by Nago Deorao to the Senaputtee : that original I saw, of which this is a copy.” Dajeeba Waced and Morapunt Josee state, that it is in the handwriting of Ram Bhao Waced, the son of an elder brother of Nago Deorao’s, with whom he used to live, and who is now stated by Morapunt Josee to be practising as a physician in the Goa territories.

262. No. 28 is an exact copy of the letter No. 5, dated the 18th June 1833, from the Raja of Sattara to Don Manoel, already alluded to in the 229th to the 231st paragraphs of this minute. Morapunt Josee admits that this copy is in his own handwriting, and his evidence is confirmed by Hurry Punt Fatuck, Dajeeba Waced, and Narrain Bhutt Chitney.

263. No. 29 is a copy of a letter in the name of the Raja of Sattara, dated the 18th June 1833, to Soor Jao Erculan de Noray. In this the Raja writes, “ Placing great confidence in the Portuguese State, in the firmness of its steady pledge, and in its great courage with that confidence, and that the friendship with your State may increase and continue, and that the purposes of this Government may be accomplished, you (Erculan) are commanded that articles of agreement were formerly sent. Their replies, intimating some delay, came, *on which, on sending a letter, you were brought here, and all the matters here were intimated to you in person, and a letter for the Surusthan was given.* Its character being the best, confiding in this, there is great encouragement. But as the matter was communicated to you, after intimating it to the Viceroy you should have sent a reply ; but till now no letter from you has come, and some doubt has therefore been entertained in the mind, and you should explain whether you have not communicated the matter. Therefore Nago Deorao and Eshwunt Raojee are departed from this Government. and when they meet you they will communicate the matter here with which they are charged, and return an answer, and such answer as may have been given (do you) write and send.”

264. This letter is of importance, as strengthening the proofs already noticed regarding Herculano’s mission to Sattara, and the fact, that articles of agreement were framed. Morapunt Josee admits that it is in his handwriting, and Hurry Punt Fatuck, Dajeeba Waced, and Narrain Bhutt Chitney affirm the same fact.

265. No 30 is copy of a letter from the Senaputtee of Sattara to Juwun Coorvee, the Viceroy’s Major Domo, and it is dated the 12th February 1834. It is in reply to one of the 13th August, and states, that the khawund (master) and himself are greatly sensible of the great aid which the Major Domo had offered in the affair, and that their whole reliance is on him. “ Nago Deorao,” he says, “ on this subject has already been establishing confidence, and the whole of the matter here has been mentioned to Narrain Bhutt Chitney : consider and answer it. Refresh the heart by frequent letters containing the news there.”

266. Respecting this paper, Raojee Kotenees states, that he had seen the original ; and Dajeeba Waced and Morapunt Josee, that it is in the handwriting

writing of Ram Bhao Waeed, the person alluded to in the 261st paragraph of this minute.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Governor
5 May 1838.

267. No. 31 is the rough draft of a letter, in the name of the Raja, to the Governor of Goa, without any date. This acknowledges a letter, and that Nago Deorao and Raojee Kotenees had intimated, that the Governor "was about to proceed to the station," and that both Vakeels had been dispatched with emergency, to inform the Governor of the matter, but that they had returned on hearing of his departure. His return having been heard of, the Vakeels are again deputed, to whom the Governor should communicate why he had remained, how long, and when he would leave: the rest of the matter the Vakeels would communicate. Morapunt Josee admits, that this draft is in his handwriting; which is confirmed by Hurry Punt Fatuck, Dajeeba Waeed, and Narrain Bhutt Chitney.

268. No. 32 is a copy of a letter from Don Manoel to the Raja of Sattara, dated the 16th February 1835, from Vingorla. This states, that the friendly letter of the Maharaj and the verbal intimations had been received. "Our Vakeel, Nago Deorao," he proceeds, "has been charged with a separate letter containing matters about the affair, and is entrusted with matters useful to the affair. Nago Deorao has carried on the affair most excellently, and has faithfully conducted himself for its success. This friend is ready for the vanquishment of your enemies, and to forward such ends as may be in his power. Answer this letter, and dispatch the Vakeels immediately."

269. Raojee Kotenees states, that it is the copy of a letter sent by the Viceroy from Vingorla, which Nago Deorao delivered to the Raja: so Nago informed him. Dajeeba Waeed acknowledges that it is in his handwriting, and that it is a copy of the translation which accompanied the letter written from Vingorla by Don Manoel to the Maharaj; and Morapunt Josee confirms this statement.

270. No. 33 is a copy of the translation of another letter from the Governor to the Raja, dated 2d June. It acknowledges one from the Raja of the 15th April,* and informs the Raja that, in September, the writer will proceed to Portugal in a ship of war under repair at Goa. "Then," continues the writer, "with our mistress, the most powerful and faithful Queen of Portugal and Algarves, undertaking with great pleasure the service relating to every one of your purposes, I am ready to do that service, and will give proof how greatly I am interested in the cause of your affair. Be assured of this." Morapunt Josee admits that this is in his handwriting, and Hurry Punt Fatuck, Dajeeba Waeed, and Narrain Bhutt Chitney affirm the same fact.

271. No. 34 is the rough draft of a letter from the Raja to the Governor, without date, but acknowledging one of the 13th August, informing the Raja that, as soon as an answer came from Europe, it should be communicated, and that he was interested in this cause, that both states might be prosperous. In reply the Raja observes, that no secret plot had been concerted with Portugal through former Governors of Goa; but a communication had been formed with him, Don Manoel, because he was of the high royal family, deep in council, firm in trust, courageous, and one willing to sacrifice life for the benefit of the Padshah. He alludes to "ports and places" lost by former Governors of Goa, to recover which, and also new states, endeavours have been commenced. "Placing perfect reliance on you," he adds, "the secret project was made, and from this affair the good of both states will result; the ports lost will be regained, and new states obtained. Keeping this seriously in the heart, you have been making exertions in every way, and your zeal was manifested in the letter. The affair will be accomplished. By the former letters and papers you will have understood the benefits to be derived, and our Carbarrees, having made one or two secret projects with the English state, *after pledging their faith, they effected a total destruction,*" at

* He also deposes, that Nago delivered the Tyly and Mahratta version to the Raja, and accompanied Nago to Sattara when he did so.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Governor,
5 May 1838.

“ at last ruined the dowlut (state).” He concludes by stating, that Narrain Wassodeo (that it is to say, Narrain Bhutt Chitthey) had been deputed to Nago Deorao to intimate some matters at Sattara.

272. It will be seen in Narrain Bhutt Chitthey's evidence, that he has deposed to the fact of his having been deputed by the Raja to Goa, for the purpose of ascertaining how matters were proceeding. Morapunt Josee admits that the above draft is in his handwriting; and this statement is corroborated by Hurry Punt Fatuck, Dajeeba Waed, and Narrain Bhutt Chitthey.

273. No. 35 is translation of a letter from Narrain Bhutt Chitthey to Balkoba Tatia, dated the 9th September 1836, from Sattara. This is a confidential letter written by the Chitthey after Nago's death. In it he says, “ Affairs here “ have been extremely mismanaged; this cannot be stated in a letter: at “ present the affair has, in fact, miscarried.” Narrain Bhutt admits this to be an original, in his own handwriting, and that the above signifies, “ Nago “ Deorao is dead: now cash for expenses cannot be had. Thus the Maharaj “ said; therefore it was written again. You should come and remain at Waee. “ Bhao and Teejeeram have gone to Poona. I also am to go on the 1st of the “ month; on my return a plan will be formed.” This means, Nago Deorao is dead; if you come here publicity will obtain, therefore stop at Waee for the present. Again, “ the manner of Nana's behaviour at Warce has been wholly “ communicated here to the master by the person of that place, who is here.” This signifies, Mahdeo Row Sirkey complains to the Maharaj of Nana, that he made great expenses, and that he maintained a great many men, Brahmin attendants, horses, &c. Balkoba Kelkur admits, that he received this letter at Warce, and that it is in the Chitthey's handwriting; and this fact is deposed to by four other witnesses, namely, Hurry Punt Fatuck, Raojee Kotenees, Dajeeba Waed, and Morapunt Josee. I will only further observe, that the instruction to Balkoba, not to come to Sattara, was very natural; for, at the time when it was issued, the Raja's attempt to seduce the Soobadars of the 23d Regiment of Native Infantry had been detected, and was under investigation.

274. No. 36 is a rough draft of a letter from the Senaputtee to the Governor's Major Domo, without date. After complaining that no letters had been received, the Senaputtee writes: “ My master, the Maharaj, having “ heard much of the firmness and wisdom of your master, the Viceroy, and “ having been fully satisfied, by referring to the ancient dufters (records) of “ this state, that your state is adorned with the two qualities of trust and “ courage, he has wholly placed his reliance on your master; but under him “ there is no person so trustworthy, so respectable, and active as yourself, “ therefore the course of the affair is entirely in your hands, and day and “ night the heart is directed towards you. Frequently supplicate your “ master: following up the affair letters should come. As soon as intelli- “ gence comes from the head station, let it be intimated here; and, to remind “ you of this, Nago Deorao and Eshwunt Raojee have been kept near you: “ protect them in every respect.” The letter concludes with a strong recommendation in favour of Herculano, and by saying, “ My master is cordially “ resolved, that the whole of the dowlut (state) is yours; therefore, managing “ as you may think proper, effect an arrangement. When the affair is accom- “ plished, the prosperity of both states will be the result.”

275. Morapunt Josee admits that this draft is in his handwriting, which is confirmed by Hurry Punt Fatuck, Dajeeba Waed, Narrain Bhutt Chitthey, and Raojee Kotenees. The latter deposes, “ No. 36 is the foul draft of a “ letter given to Mugdoom-more from the Senaputtee: there is also my “ writing in it. The original paper went to Mugdoom-more.”

276. No. 37 is the rough draft of a letter in the name of the Raja to the Governor of Goa, without date, and acknowledges the receipt of an answer to two letters formerly sent to the Governor, the one by Herculano, the other by Nago Deorao and Raojee Kotenees. It is then observed, “ You have “ written, and the Vakeel has intimated, that you have assured him your “ desire

SATTARA
PAPERS.Minute
by the Govern
5 May 1838.

“ desire for the affair is great, and that you will make a communication as soon as the first opportunity offers, but that an answer is to come from the chief station of the empire ; as to this, although here, the whole of my mind is directed towards that point, and when the favourable news is received the heart will be greatly gladdened. The news of the head station should be frequently communicated by letter, and then I shall be revived. Any matter not fit to be written in a letter should be communicated through the Vakeel. This friend placing his whole confidence in you, the preparation of the suringam (forces) for the affair is in progress. Availing yourself of the favourable time, you will doubtless trace the course of the project. Of this, I am assured ; and to remind you of this, both the Vakeels, my confidants, have been placed under your command : protect them till the affair is completed. The accounts here are written to them.” The letter concludes by a strong recommendation in favour of Herculano, and by stating, “ If any thing be required from hence at any time, send the Vakeel immediately. Whatever suringam may be required will be provided.”

277. This draft is also admitted by Morapunt Josee to be in his handwriting, and this is confirmed by Hurry Punt Fatuck, Dajeeba Waecd, and Narrain Bhutt Chitney. Raojee Kotencs states, that, “ It is the foul draft of a letter to the Viceroy from the Raja, in which there are words in his handwriting.”

278. No. 38, the last of the documents, is in Nago Deorao's handwriting, and is headed, “ Shree Sidraj.” Memorandum of requisitions to be made. They are as follow :—

- 1st. For the papers.
- 2d. By drawing up other papers.
- 3d. How should letters be delivered to the General ?
- 4th. For the project, agreements to be concluded with other quarters.
- 5th. Letter of Appa Sahib—arrangement.
- 6th. What letter is to be given to the Maharaj ?
- 7th. What time will intervene before going ?
- 8th. Some things for the Maharaj.
- 9th. Five letters remaining.

279. This is evidently a memorandum of notes by Nago Deorao, on points connected with the Goa intrigues which he desired to remember. Its authenticity is proved by Hurry Punt Fatuck, Raojee Kotencs, Dajeeba Waecd, Morapunt Josee, and Narrain Bhutt Chitney ; all of whom depose, that the memorandum is in Nago Deorao's handwriting.

280. I have now gone through the whole of the evidence accompanying Lieutenant-General Ovans's able report of the 11th of November last. It may be thought that I have been unnecessarily prolix, but the great importance of this case, and my desire to have the transactions belonging to it in a clear and corrected form, fully justify, I think, the course I have pursued ; and I would fain hope, that what I have here offered will diminish the labours of those, by whom the question of the Raja's guilt or innocence must ultimately be determined.

281. To those who have accompanied me thus far, I would beg to suggest, that as a short *précis* of the whole of this case, they should now peruse, or re-peruse the report of Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans just mentioned. It contains a clear and concise summary ; and if, on some points of very trifling moment, my views of the case may be slight modifications of those which the Acting Resident has exhibited, the difference is too minute to be worth regarding, whilst, in all material respects, I am happy that a careful and independent consideration of the evidence has led me to the same conclusions with those of that able officer. It will be found, I must add, that Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans weighed with care the difficulties which the case exhibits, and his solution of them appears to me just and satisfactory. To these difficulties I also adverted as they occurred ; and, on the whole, I must record my firm conviction, that the

SATTARA
PAPERS.Minute
by the Governor,
5 May 1838.

the guilt of the Raja of Sattara, judging on the ground of the evidence commented on in the minute, is fully substantiated.

282. It is necessary, however, to bear in mind, that the preceding pages are far from exhausting the case. My Colleagues are aware, that the overwhelming mass of evidence has been corroborated by proofs obtained at Dharwar and Rutnagheery. In my minute of the 2d February last, I observed as follows:—"I shall hereafter notice the important fact of the formal inquiry at Sattara, and the contingent one at Dharwar, each being conducted by officers quite independent of each other, producing similar results, implicating the same persons, and eliciting similar facts. Is it, therefore, possible, that concert or collusion can exist; and can the most sceptical refuse to believe, that the Raja of Sattara really did conceive the mad project of forming a treasonable alliance with the Goa Government?" To a small part of the Rutnagheery proofs I have cursorily alluded in the foregoing pages, but there is a great extent of substantive ground yet to be travelled over. Being, however, unwilling to detain these documents from circulation, and ultimate transmission to the Government of India, I will submit my remarks on the despatches of Messrs. Dunlop and Spooner in a separate minute, merely here observing, in the language of an eminent jurist, that "When the proofs are independent of each other, the probability of the fact increases in proportion to their number."

(Signed) R. GRANT.

5th May 1838.

Minute
by the Governor,
15 May 1838.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR.

Dated 15th May 1838.

1. I beg to circulate a portion of my minute on the Sattara case, together with the proceedings on which it is formed; except Mr. Willoughby's summaries, which are in the hands of the copyist for transmission to England.

2. The summaries, when the copies are completed, will be immediately circulated.

3. I request the immediate and attentive consideration of my Colleagues to this important case, which should have the preference over all other proceedings until it is finally disposed of.

4. I feel myself, however, in an embarrassing dilemma at the present moment. We are pledged to send home the case by the packet which is to be sent on the 21st; and having already given that pledge once without redeeming it, a second failure is out of the question. To call, however, on my Colleagues for their opinions in the interim, would be to make a demand on them in the highest degree unreasonable, even were a compliance with it physically possible. This is peculiarly true as to Mr. Anderson, who is necessarily unacquainted with the former proceedings. I see no escape from this dilemma, but by a course which puts me in a position extremely unpleasant to me; yet it is one from which, I feel, I ought not to shrink under the circumstances. I would therefore propose, that these proceedings be sent with my minute; the Secret Committee being informed, that the collective opinion of Government will be sent hereafter.

5. Until my Colleagues have recorded their opinions, the transmission of the proceedings to the Governor General should be postponed; but it is, I need scarcely say, of great importance, that no unnecessary delay should occur in putting his Lordship in possession of these documents.

(Signed) R. GRANT.

15th May 1838.

MINUTE BY MR. JAMES FARISH.

I shall be ready to afford the earliest undivided attention to this important subject.

(Signed) J. FARISH.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by Mr. J. Farish

MINUTE BY MR G. W. ANDERSON,

Dated 15th May 1838.

I am quite prepared to give to the subject the utmost attention ; but, with this, I know that I should only form hasty and unsatisfactory opinions, were I at leave to make up my mind in the short interval that will elapse before the departure of the steamer. I am, therefore, most thankful for the course the Right Honourable the Governor has proposed for adoption.

(Signed) G. W. ANDERS

15th May 1838.

Minute by Mr.
G. W. Anderson,
15 May 1838.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Dated 15th May 1838.

Minute
by the Governor,
15 May 1838.

1. In continuation of my minute of the 5th instant, I shall now submit and remark on the evidence which has been obtained by Mr. Dunlop in the Southern Mahratta country, and by Mr. Spooner at Rutnagheery, in confirmation of that obtained at Sattara, regarding the intrigues of the Raja of Sattara with the Governor of Goa.

2. The Acting Resident at Sattara, in a letter dated the 27th July 1837, reported, that he had been informed, "that a Kolapoor Akbarnavees, by name "Ramapa, now at Dharwar, was some years ago sent to Goa by Mr. Nisbet, "to inquire into certain intrigues then carrying on between that place and "Sattara, and that it was supposed he succeeded in obtaining the information "required." He therefore suggested, that the Political Agent in the Southern Mahratta country should be directed to procure from this person a statement of all that he knew of the transaction in question.

3. On the same occasion, Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans stated that he had been given to understand, that some papers regarding the Goa intrigue had fallen into the possession of Chintamon Rao Sangleekur, and that these might be obtained on application to Annapa Shapoorkur, the Carbarry of Chintamon Rao. The papers were said to have been obtained by the late Swamee of Sunkeshwur from Nago Deorao, and to have been given by the Swamee to Chintamon Rao.

4. On the 3d August the Acting Resident was called on to state, whether, in his opinion, Mr. Dunlop should communicate openly or secretly with the above persons, and whether he had any reason to suppose that the Raja of Sattara had held intercourse with Chintamon Rao. Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans, on the 5th, replied to this reference in the negative, stating, that it was supposed that the papers had been made over to Chintamon Rao by the Swamee, "to give him a hold over his Highness." In consequence of this communication, Mr. Dunlop was, on the 16th of the same month, directed to endeavour to obtain the documents alluded to.

5. It is by this clue that the corroborative evidence has been obtained at Dharwar. On the 29th November last Mr. Dunlop, in entire ignorance of the information which had been elicited at Sattara, and uninformed even

SATTARA
PAPERS.Minute
by the Governor,
15 May 1838.

of the names of the principal agents employed in these intrigues, reported that he had obtained possession of four papers, through the agency of Chintamon Rao's Dewan, from the present Swamee of Sunkeshwur, Jhunker Bhartee, and that hopes had been held out to him of procuring an original thylee from the Sattara Raja to the address of a Portuguese, who is said to have left the country before it was delivered, but, from the confused way in which European names are pronounced or written by natives, Mr. Dunlop said he could not discover who might be indicated; and the correspondence through the late Swamee, and the *Sattara Raja's agent, Nago Deorao, was with a Doctor of an equally unintelligible name.*

6. The first of these papers is an original letter from Nago Deorao to the late Swamee of Sunkeshwur, merely excusing himself for having, "in consequence of an emergent occurrence," proceeded direct to Sattara, and promising to visit Sunkeshwur on his return, "to make known all that had passed, and proceed onwards." Its authenticity is proved by Hurry Punt Fatuck and Balkoba Kelkur,* who both state it to be in the handwriting of Nana Fatuck, but begun and ended by Nago Deorao himself. The first of these witnesses says, "I have examined this letter: it appears to have been written by Nago Deorao to the Sri Sunkeshwur Swamee, and it is in the handwriting of my son, Nana Fatuck. It is dated in Vysaick (May) and in Sukey 1754 (A.D. 1832). On the date of the letter Nago Deorao came to my house at Sattara, and from thence, as my son was sick, he took him to Revensidh for medical treatment. On the 13th Shrawun Sood (9th August) in the same year, my son died at Revensidh. The word '*Sidraj*' near Shri, and the words '*Hey Vidnyapunah*' at the end, are in the handwriting of Nago Deorao." The second witness states, that he and Morapunt Josee accompanied Nago Deorao to Sattara in May 1832, and that he returned with him and Nana Fatuck to Revensidh. "This letter is written by Nago Deorao to the Swamee: the handwriting is that of Nana Fatuck, and the words *Sidraj* near Shri and *Hey Vidnyapunah*, are written by Nana Waecd."

7. The second paper is supposed by Mr. Dunlop to contain the heads of the propositions which Nago Deorao was empowered to make to the Portuguese Government. It is only a copy, and "therefore cannot be looked upon as of any force as proof, though it bears the appearance of age, and comes from so respectable a source, that it affords grounds for suspicion in the connexion in which it stands." Mr. Dunlop was not of course aware, when he made the above remark, that the preparation of a paper, very nearly resembling in its contents the one obtained by him, had been distinctly deposed to by one of the witnesses at Sattara, who actually made a copy of it for the Swamee. (*Vide* summary of evidence AA. 1, annexed to my minute of the 5th May 1838.)

8. The paper obtained by Mr. Dunlop is not the identical copy which Wassodeo Shastry prepared, and this may account for its containing an additional article. His evidence is as follows: "I have examined the copy of the *yad*; it is not in my handwriting nor do I know who wrote it. The article in this *yad*, 'when the enemies are defeated and our authority is established, those who are at Brumhwurt (Bethore) and Benares should be brought and delivered up to us,' was not in the *yad* which I have alluded to in my former deposition, as having made a copy of it with my own hand at Sunkeshwur. The rest of the articles are similar to those in the one which I copied." When I first perused the evidence of Wassodeo Shastry, his account of this agreement seemed wild and extravagant in the extreme; but, nevertheless, we now find its general accuracy confirmed in a most remarkable manner, from a source altogether independent of Sattara, and of the evidence obtained at that place.

9. The paper No. 3, Mr. Dunlop states to be an original letter "from a Shenusce native of Goa;" and Raojee Kotenees admits, that he wrote it to the late

* *Vide* their evidence, 1 and 2 of Lieutenant-Col. Ovens's report, 19th December 1827.

† Compare his evidence with the paper obtained by Mr. Dunlop.

late Swamee of Sunkeshwur, and that it is in his handwriting. He explains that it was sent, about two or three years ago, by Nago Deorao and Balumbhut, and that it signifies as follows: "The Viceroy Sahib is about to proceed to Europe, and a certain person who is to accompany him is made ready: his expenses should be provided for. Hitherto pains have been taken for this affair, the accomplishment of which is at hand, and the Doctor has written a separate letter by which all will be understood." He adds, that the letter related to the treasonable communications of the Raja of Sattara with Goa, alluded to in his former deposition.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Governor
15 May 1838.

10. The fourth paper is represented by Mr. Dunlop to be "an original letter from the Doctor," and there can be no doubt that it is the identical letter alluded to in No. 3.—Raojee Kotenees deposes, that "it is in the name of Erculan the Doctor," and signifies, "agreeably to the wishes expressed by the Mohil (friend, *i. e.* the Swamee), by his own mouth, pains have hitherto been taken and a way opened, according to your desire. Now every thing to follow should be done by you." The letter relates to the treasonable communications of the Raja of Sattara with the Portuguese wala, and its import is: "The man who is to be sent with the Viceroy should go soon, or else the business will miscarry." In reference to the allusion to the fact of verbal communications having passed between Erculan and the Swamee, the Kotenees states, that the Doctor informed him that they met twice, once at Shapoor, and once after his mission to Sattara. By the term *Gruhust* in the following passage, "A letter even has not come, the Gruhust has asked once or twice," is meant, Mudomore, the Viceroy's Major Domo; and the passage, "As your Swamee was to proceed into this country, permission was obtained;" refers to a visit intended by the Swamee to Goa, for which the permission of the Viceroy was obtained.

11. In forwarding these papers, Mr. Dunlop reported, that he had questioned the Akhbarnavees alluded to in Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens's letter of the 27th July, and that, from the intelligence he formerly obtained, there seemed to be little doubt that Nago Deorao was employed by the Raja in Goa, and that Sunkeshwur was an intermediate point from which information could be communicated with less suspicion, from the sanctity of the Swamee's office and character, at the same time that he was himself engaged in these intrigues.

12. With regard to Chintamon Rao, Mr. Dunlop says, that this chief admits, that he obtained intelligence of something being in agitation at Sunkeshwur, though not in a sufficiently authentic shape to communicate with Government, and therefore that he merely wrote to the Swamee, cautioning him to abstain from all concern in such transactions; but he denies having ever possessed any original papers, though he made use of the information he had obtained "to endeavour to frighten the Raja into his views respecting the quarrel between the Brahmins and Prubhoos, by pretending to know much more than he really did." This explanation certainly does not strike me as being very satisfactory; and, from what Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens states in the 6th paragraph of his letter of the 19th December last, the conduct of Chintamon Rao seems not a little suspicious. He appears to know more than he is willing to disclose; for Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens has learned from a person named Bhasker Mahatta, that the chief some years ago shewed him the papers at Sanglee, and mentioned that they had been obtained from Nago Deorao and the deceased Swamee of Sunkeshwur, and this fact was communicated to Mr. Dunlop on the 25th of last September.

13. On the 12th December, Mr. Dunlop was directed to endeavour to get possession of the "original thylec" alluded to in the 5th paragraph of this minute; but as we have heard nothing further from this officer on the subject, his attention has recently again been drawn to it. He was at the same time informed, and I believe for the first time, that the correspondence of the Raja of Sattara was believed to have been carried on with Don Manoel, the Governor of Goa, and that "the Doctor," to whom he had alluded in his letter of

the

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Governor,
15 May 1838.

the 29th November, as one of the agents employed, was named Irkool or Herculano.

14. On the 6th January Mr. Dunlop reported, that he had just obtained, through the agency of Ram Row Akhbarnavees, from the dependents of the deceased Swamee, some papers connected with the late intrigues, and that he had taken the deposition of the person named Narrain Bhutt Sidhe, detailing the missions on which he had been employed. The Political Agent further stated, that one of the facts mentioned by this witness (namely, that he had seen certain seals of the Peishwa in the Swamee's possession) had been confirmed, by these seals having been brought to him, without the knowledge of the deponent, by the Carbarees of the Swamee, in whose treasury they were found at the time of his death.

15. These seals are of silver gilt, and are supposed to have been made by the Swamee by order of the Peishwa. The inscription on the large seal is in the name of the present Raja of Sattara, with that of the adopted son of the ex-Peishwa Bajee Row added to it; which, as observed by Mr. Dunlop, "marks the feelings and intentions of the party." The small seal is merely "inscribed Lekhun Seena."

16. The deposition of Narrain Bhutt Sidhe was sent to us in a subsequent letter; but in that of the 6th January Mr. Dunlop observes, the principal paper mentioned by Narrain Bhutt and others is an original treaty between the Portuguese Governor of Goa, called by my informant Don Manoel Sahib, and the Raja of Sattara, *signed by the former and sealed with his seal in wax*. At Sattara abundant evidence has been obtained to prove that the Raja of Sattara himself entered into a treaty, and a paper, purporting to shew the nature of that treaty, was found among Nago Deorao's papers. I need not, therefore, point out how strongly the independent evidence of the Dharwar witness corroborates that of Sattara on this vital point; but it goes much farther, for it tends to prove that the treaty was actually ratified by both parties, by the Raja on the one hand, and by the Governor on the other.

17. On the 15th January, Mr. Dunlop submitted to Government the under-mentioned documents,

1st. The deposition of Narrain Bhutt Sidhe.

2d. Four original papers obtained from the dependents of the late Swamee of Sunkeshwur.

3d. The joint deposition of three Carbarees, much in the confidence of the late Swamee, by name Seroram Bhutt Ladkur, Babajee Himmunt Row, and Ramapa Jamdar, the persons who brought the seals referred to in a preceding paragraph.

I will offer a few remarks on each of the above-mentioned documents, in the order in which they stand.

18. Narrain Bhutt Sidhe is an inhabitant of Arosec, in the Sawunt Warree territory. After deposing to certain transactions between the late Swamee of Sunkeshwur and the chief of Soorapoor, which I shall hereafter notice, this witness says, "An agreement was made between the Raja of Sattara and Don Manoel, Raja of Goa, to which the latter affixed his signature and seal stamped in sealing-wax. The original agreement was in the Jamdarkhana of the Muth at Sunkeshwur, where I have seen it. Baba-jee Himmunt Row, Ramapa, and Bapoo Potedar, *know that it is there now*." The said agreement was made through Nago Deorao Vaidya Waackur, in the service of the Raja of Sattara, and Raojee Kotenees, an inhabitant of Araba in the Goa territory. Afterwards Mahdeo Row Sirkey, on the part of the Raja of Sattara, went from Sattara by way of Sawunt Warree to Goa, and spoke to Don Manoel personally on the subject, and then departed. The said Sirkey came to the Swamee at Kolapoor, and then went to Sattara. The following persons used to go to the Goakur on the part of the Raja of Sattara and the Sunkeshwur Swamee:

"1st. Nago Deorao Vaidya Waackur.

"2d. Raojee Kotenees Arabeekur.

"3d. Mahdeo Row Sirkey, who went once and had an interview.

SATTARA
PAPERS.Minute
by the Governor
15 May 1898.

" The following persons were employed on messages to Goa :

- " 1st. Babajee Punt Joglekur, inhabitant of Sunkeshwur.
- " 2d. Balumbhut Moongeykur, of Korgaon, in the Goa district.
- " 3d. Wassodeo Punt, Thakoor, of Poona.
- " 4th. Narrain Bhutt Chitney, of Sattara.
- " 5th. Teejeeram, Sowcar, of do.
- " 6th. Bhow Sing, of Paree in the territory of Sattara.
- " 7th. Dajeeba Waed, of Waee in do. of do.
- " 8th. Balkoba, of do. in do. of do.
- " 9th. Bapoo Gerkhya, of Hutnoor, belonging to the Swamee.
- " 10th. Morapunt, Putwurdhun, inhabitant of a village one coss from Sattara.
- " 11th. Ram Bhow, of Waee.

" The dependents of the Goakur employed in these intrigues were :

- " 1st. Cyprian Bardeskur, of Mahupsee in the Goa territory, who has a banking establishment at Sunkeshwur.
- " 2d. A Portuguese, whose name I do not remember, came to the Swamee and put up with Cyprian, and presented a ring to the Swamee, who gave in return a gold chain, diamond ring, and fifty Punalee rupees. I was an eye-witness of this."

19. The remainder of the deposition of this witness relates to the intrigues of the late Swamee with Baroda and other places, and with Bajee Rao, the ex-Peishwa, and refers to the intended attack of the Treasury at Vingorla, which was brought to our notice in August last by Mr. Spooner, Acting Collector at Rutnagheery, and of which I shall have occasion to remark in the sequel of this minute. Hurry Punt Fatuck is also named by him as one of the persons engaged in the Goa intrigues. It appears farther, from the evidence both of this witness and of the three Carbarees next to be noticed, that Atmaram Bhutt Noolkur, an inhabitant of Sawunt Warree, was actively employed by the Swamee in his intrigues at Baroda and elsewhere. This is plainly the Atmaram Bhutt mentioned in the Sattara evidence as one of the original emissaries on the part of the Swamee to Goa. Very little is said of him in that evidence ; but what there appears derives indirect confirmation from the Dharwar depositions. The person referred to is now stated to be dead.

20. The four original letters alluded to by Mr. Dunlop do not relate to the Sattara and Goa intrigue, but to communications regarding a loan to be advanced to the Soorapoor chief, which will be noticed in their proper place.

21. The joint deposition of the three Carbarees of the late Swamee first alludes to the four papers already remarked on in the 5th and 6th following paragraphs of this minute, and acknowledges that they were found in the Swamee's jamdarkana or treasury. It next alludes to the seals referred to in the 14th and 15th paragraphs of this minute, and concludes with a description of various papers apparently connected with the intrigues of the Swamee at Baroda ; but it does not appear to have occurred to Mr. Dunlop to examine the Carbarees as to their knowledge of those carried on between Sattara, Sunkeshwur, and Goa, which is, I think, to be regretted, as, from the situation filled by these persons, they cannot but be well informed on the subject.

22. In reference to the above documents Mr. Dunlop observes, that the treaty between the Portuguese, Don Manoel, and the Sattara Raja, had not been brought to him, neither had the other papers mentioned by Narrain Bhutt as having been in the late Swamee's possession, and that he had not much hope of procuring any except the first, "*the existence of which, at one time, he adds, is not denied, though it cannot now be proved into whose hands it fell.*" On the receipt of this letter, we felt ourselves debarred, by the instructions of the Government of India, from pursuing the collateral inquiries which it naturally suggested. We directed Mr. Dunlop, however, to use every exertion to obtain possession of the other documents alluded to by Narrain Bhutt Sidhe, but more especially the treaty alleged to have been entered into by the Raja of Sattara and the Governor of Goa.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Governor,
15 May 1838.

23. On the 6th February, Mr. Dunlop's letters of the 6th and 15th January were referred to Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans, and on the 13th they were reported on by the latter officer. Several of the documents obtained at Dharwar were identified at Sattara, and the Acting Resident justly remarks, that the evidence of Narrain Bhutt Sidhe and of the three Carbarees corroborates, in a very remarkable manner, that which had been previously obtained at Sattara, and that, although the Dharwar deponents had no knowledge of the information procured at Sattara, they had deposed to the existence of certain papers at Sunkeshwur, and other particulars connected with these intrigues. He then refers to the confirmation at Dharwar of the fact stated by the Sattara witnesses, of a treaty having been concluded, through the agency of Nago Deorao and Raojee Kotenees, between the Raja and Don Manoel, as well as in respect to the mission of Mahdeo Row Sirkey to Goa. The intimacy between the late Swamee of Sunkeshwur and Narrain Bhutt Sidhe is proved by the evidence of Morapunt Josce and Narrain Bhutt Chitney, transmitted by Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans with his report.

24. On the 29th January, Mr. Dunlop forwarded copies of two letters addressed by the Swamee to Chintamun Rao, the chief of Sanglee, purporting to be in reply to verbal communications to the former from the latter. These letters evidently could not afford the intelligence of which Chintamun Rao admits that he made use to alarm the Raja, for they in no degree implicate that person. It is too probable, therefore, that this favoured chief has not been perfectly candid in his communications; and my suspicions of his fairness are strengthened by the information conveyed in Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans's letter of the 21st February. Still I do not think the letters delivered up by him altogether unimportant. They clearly shew that something improper was in progress, and that the Swamee was implicated with "low persons in secret plans and state affairs." He states, however, that he had "told the person who had spoke to him, that he would have nothing to do with the business:" a profession to which his conduct does not appear to have been conformable.

25. On the 16th February, Mr. Dunlop submitted various papers which he had obtained, relating to "the intrigues between the Raja of Sattara and the "Soorapoor chief;" but as these are not connected with the Goa case, except so far as they indicate that the Raja's designs embraced a wide and extended sphere, I shall pass them over, and proceed to notice Mr. Dunlop's subsequent letter of the 19th of the same month, which exclusively refers to the Goa intrigues.

26. With this despatch Mr. Dunlop submitted the following documents, procured by Ram Row Akhbarnavees, through the influence of the present Swamee of Sunkeshwur:—

1st. A letter, alleged to be original, from the Raja of Sattara to Don Manoel.

2d. A letter from Don Manoel to the Raja of Sattara.

3d. A letter from Don Manoel to the late Swamee of Sunkeshwur.

Mr. Dunlop reported, that these papers were stated to have been obtained from the house of Raojee Kotenees, a native of Goa, at whose house Nago Deorao had principally resided, and that they had been procured by a person named Babajee Punt Joglekur.

27. In my minute of the 10th March last I observed, that the letters 2 and 3 were evidently not originals, and that they appeared to be Mahratta translations of letters written in the Portuguese character. The first is dated the 25th January 1831, and purports to be in reply to one from the Raja of the 9th. It merely expresses the Governor's satisfaction at hearing that the Raja was well. The second is dated the 13th August 1833, and acknowledges the receipt of a letter from the Swamee, sent by Nago Deorao, and a verbal communication made by the same person, and promises to write to the Swamee as occasion may require. Both documents bear the appearance of having been written long since.

28. On the 22d February, Mr. Dunlop submitted the deposition of the person who obtained these documents, the substance of which is as follows :—
 “I went into the Goa Prant, to the villages of Pedney, Korgaon, and Malpey, and, on instituting inquiries, learnt that there were some papers in the possession of Raojee Kotenees, who resides at Araba near Goa. I learned this through Balum Bhutt Moongeykur and Sable Purub Dessoy of Pedney, but that they could not be obtained without money. On this I wrote to Ram Row Akhbarnavees and the Carbarees of the Swamee. The latter joined me, and after receiving assurances, Balumbhut gave up the papers. The reason of these three papers being in one place is, that Nago Deorao Vyed, a Mookhtyar agent, on the part of the Raja of Sattara, and Erculan, Doctor, a resident at Goa, between these two the confidential person was Raojee Kotenees, in whose house Nago Deorao resided, through whom the papers belonging to both parties were obtained there; this state intrigue being carried on secretly, therefore they, with a view that it should not be divulged, used to lodge them there in one place. On the part of the Sattara Maharaj, Nago Deorao Vyed Waekur, and Irkool, Doctor, a resident of Panjee at Goa, on the part of Don Manoel Sahib, between these the emissary in the affair was Raojee Kotenees. These three have carried on this state intrigue for thirteen or fourteen years, from which period Nago Deorao and Raojee Kotenees used to frequent Sattara and Sunkeshwur from Goa; I have therefore an acquaintance with this affair. I know the parties. On one occasion I went, on the part of the Swamee, to Goa, to call Nago Deorao. Raojee Kotenees’ house is at Araba, from whence the original letters were obtained from his brother, through Balumbhut and the Dessoy.”*

Minute
by the Governor
15 May 1838.

29. The above deposition, and the documents to which it chiefly refers, were reported on by Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans, in his letter of the 19th March. Neither the handwriting, nor the seals of the Mahratta letter in the name of the Raja of Sattara to the Governor of Goa, are identified by any of the Sattara witnesses, all of whom state it not to have been written by any one of the mundullee, or party, of Nago Deorao. It is, however, remarkable, that its contents correspond with the letter from the Raja of Sattara to the Viceroy, No. 4 of List E. accompanying Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans’s report of the 11th November, though the dates vary, the one being dated the 21st December, the other the 26th November 1830.

30. With regard to the two letters written in the Portuguese character, Raojee Kotenees denies that they were in his house when he left it, and states, that they do not bear Don Manoel’s signature, and that it was not customary at Goa to write Mahratta letters in the Portuguese character; nevertheless, the letter of the 13th August 1833 corresponds with the one from the Viceroy to the Raja, marked C. of List E. of the report of the 11th November, though this is dated the 23d August 1833.

31. It seems to me, that there is some mystery connected with these documents to be cleared up. I am rather disposed to think that they were not obtained from the house of Raojee Kotenees, for no object exists which should induce the latter to disown them. It is not impossible that they were found among the Swamee’s papers, and that they may have been the drafts from which the genuine letters, with which they correspond, were written. Being quite unauthenticated, however, they cannot be used to impeach any person; yet, obtained as they have been by a party unconnected with the Sattara inquiry, they seem to add materially to the evidence obtained, regarding the general fact of the existence of the Goa intrigues, and the length of time during which they have been in progress, while, at the same time, the testimony of the person who has produced them, with respect to the principal parties employed in conducting those intrigues, and as to their visiting Sattara and Sunkeshwur, is entirely corroborative of the information previously acquired.

32. On

* *Vide* this man’s deposition taken at Dharwar, 19th February 1838.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Governor,
15 May 1838.

32. On the 10th March last, Mr. Dunlop requested instructions regarding the disposal of a diamond ring, produced by the present Swamee of Sunkeshwur "as having been presented to his predecessor by a Portuguese named "Christovao, who repaired to Sunkeshwur to negotiate respecting the intrigues "between that place and Goa, about two years ago;" and reported, that he had taken several depositions, verifying the handwriting of the agent, Christovao, and identifying the ring, but that, as they could answer no purpose, except to establish the participation of the late Swamee, which was not denied, he had not deemed it necessary to forward them. In reply, he was requested to transmit these documents, and was informed, that although the Swamee is admitted to have been concerned in these intrigues, yet Government deemed it advisable to ascertain in what manner, and to what extent, he was implicated. Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans has reported,* that he is unable to obtain any information at Sattara regarding the Portuguese named Christovao; but among the agents mentioned by Narrain Bhutt Sidhe is a Portuguese, whose name he does not remember, of whom he says, that he came to the Swamee, and received from him with other presents a diamond ring.— (*Vide* paragraph 18 of this minute.)

33. I beg here to suggest, that Mr. Dunlop be called on to submit, with as little delay as possible—

34. First. The statement of Ram Row Akhbarnavees of the result of his mission to Goa, under the orders of Mr. Nesbit, and whether this person, as stated in Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans's letter to Mr. Dunlop of 25th September last, made at the time a report to Mr. Nesbit which was forwarded to Colonel Robertson.

35. Second. Whether he has been able to obtain "the original thylce from "the Raja of Sattara, to the address of a Portuguese who had left the country "before it was delivered," alluded to in the 2d paragraph of his letter of the 29th November last, as being in the possession of the present Swamee.

36. Third. If such thylce has not been given up, to take all the evidence obtainable regarding its existence and contents.

37. Fourth. To examine the Swamee's three Carbarees respecting the treaty between the Raja and Don Manoel. With reference to this, Mr. Dunlop may be informed, that as Narrain Bhutt Sidhe distinctly declares, that this treaty, with several other papers, was deposited in the late Swamee's treasury, the present Swamee is bound to produce it; and that, should it appear to him that this person is guilty of double-dealing in the matter, Government authorize the adoption of the measure suggested by him in his letter of 6th January last, namely, the temporary sequestration of the Swamee's villages until the documents are produced.

38. Fifth. A copy of Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans's letter of 19th of December last should be sent to Mr. Dunlop, and the suspicions entertained by Government regarding Chintamun Rao communicated, in order that he may institute further inquiries on the subject of the papers alleged to have been delivered over to that chief.

39. Instituting these further inquiries is contrary to the orders of the Government of India, but they are confined to our Presidency; and I am satisfied that, with the information before us, we are fully justified in so far deviating from our instructions.

40. Although unconnected with the Goa intrigue, I will now briefly allude to the documents referred to in the 19th and 24th paragraphs of this minute, as having been obtained from the agents of the late Swamee, and relating to communications between certain persons at Sattara and the Beerur chief of Soorapoor, who is dependant on his Highness the Nizam.

41. It will be in the recollection of the Board, on the 5th September last Mr. Chief Secretary Wathen reported, that he had been informed that Raojee Kotenees

* *Vide* his letter, 11th April.

SATTARA
PAPERS.Minute
by the Govern
15 May 1836

Kotenees had been deputed by the Raja of Sattara to the chief of Soorapoor in the Nizam's country, to endeavour to persuade him to assist in his projected attempt to expel the British from India, and that the Raja, in order to raise funds to enable the Beerur chief to commence his movements, sent Raojee Kotenees to the late Swamee of Sunkeshwur, in order to obtain from him an advance of money for the chief, and that he was believed to have succeeded in obtaining Rupees 20,000 or upwards. This information was transmitted to the Resident at Hyderabad on the 16th September, in order that he might institute inquiries on the subject; and on the 10th October Lieutenant-Colonel Stewart replied to our reference, and stated that Captain Lee, who was then at Soorapoor, "did not believe Raojee Kotenees was ever at Soora-
"poor, and felt convinced that the Raja of that place would have seized him,
"or any other person, who had come to Soorapoor on any mission of the
"nature indicated, it being at this moment most particularly the interest
"of the Soorapoor Zemindar to conciliate the British Authorities."

42. Notwithstanding this opinion, the original correspondence, which has now been obtained at Dharwar, clearly and satisfactorily proves, that communications of a suspicious nature passed, about two years ago, between the chief of Beerur, on the one hand, and the late Swamee of Sunkeshwur and Madheo Row Sirkey, on the other.

*43. The Raja of Sattara not being even named in any of these documents, it would be most unjust, without further inquiry, to include them among the proofs on which any conclusion unfavourable to the character of that Prince is made to rest. On the other hand, the positive orders of the Government of India preclude us from urging that further inquiry, which would probably, in one way or other, resolve our doubts on the subject. In this situation, I see no course open to me but, under the distinct warning which I have already given, to state the contents of the documents, with about the same degree of fulness which I have used in abstracting the rest. Forming part of the evidence handed up to us in this case, warranting, as they do, suspicions against the Raja, I could not pass over that circumstance in silence; and having stated it, I am bound to exhibit enough of them, to enable the Board to judge for themselves how far my description of them is sustained.

44. Four of these documents were forwarded by Mr. Dunlop in his letter of the 15th January last. The first is an original letter from Mahdeo Row Sirkey to Nursing Bhartee, dated from Sattara the 16th Rubbee-oal-awul, and its effect is as follows: "The Soorapoor Raja requires two lacs and a half of rupees.
"When I spoke to you before on this subject, you told me that if the busi-
"ness could be accomplished, it would be well and for my advantage. I
"therefore came to Sattara, and have got ready from a sowcar as much as
"one lac and a half, and I told Narrain Bhutt Sidhe to speak to you about
"the remaining lac, and he wrote you would be able to make it up. Having
"got one lac and a half ready with Vishnoodass and Teejeeram, I wrote to
"you and the Soorapoorkur, and received answers by Narrain Bhutt and
"Lukshmun Jemadar. I have considered these, and send a *yad* on the part
"of the Sowcar, and another regarding private arrangements; according to
"which an agreement being made, when an answer to the *yads* and letter is
"received, the money and my moktyar will be forwarded. The *yads* and letter
"should be sent by Agasee to Soorapoor."

45. The second is an original letter from the Swamee to Mahdeo Row Sirkey, dated Shuk 1758, Adhik; or intercalary month, therefore the English date is June-July 1836. This alludes to communications having previously passed between them, regarding the Soorapoor chief being in want of money, and that, in consequence, Lukshmun Sing, on the part of the chief of Soorapoor, and Narrain Bhutt Sidhe, had been sent to him (the Sirkey) with a letter, and had returned with a memorandum of fourteen articles regarding the accomplishment of the business. The Swamee then observes, "Some of these articles
"are hard, nevertheless it will be done more or less. When I hear that you
"will certainly accomplish the money affair, I shall be able to write to him
"(the chief)."

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Governor,
15 May 1838.

46. The third letter is from the Swamee to Narrain Bhutt Sidhe and Lukshmun Sing Jemadar, and says; "My orders are as follows:—You state there " will be no obstacle on the part of the Sirkey in the money affair, provided " the memorandum of fourteen articles is agreed to by the Soorapoorkur. An " increase of 2,000 rupees to the Nemnook is stipulated for. If I am to men- " tion this, the chief confidence must be in a letter from the Sirkey. Obtain " this. Afterwards, having written to the chief and received his answer, I " shall be able to bring them together." The fourth letter does not relate to this affair, but to some intrigues carried on by the Swamee at Baroda.

47. The remaining documents, twelve in number, were forwarded to Government by Mr. Dunlop, in his letter of 16th February last. These were, for the most part, obtained from Janardhun Mahadew Agasee, whom Mr. Dunlop reports to have been " an old favourite of the ex-Peishwa, and to have been " actively employed." The first is an original letter from the Soorapoor chief to the Swamee, and has a large square seal with an Arabic inscription attached to it. This is written very obscurely; but the writer applies for aid to extricate him from his pecuniary difficulties, and states that he has sent Timmassa Shastry and Janoba Bhow to communicate verbally on the subject. It further acknowledges the receipt of an encouraging letter by Lukshmun Sing, calls on the Swamee to perform what he had promised, and observes, that the message regarding future plans is judicious.

48. The second is from Madheo Row Sirkey to Timmassa Shastry, and is dated Vysack vud the fourth. This acknowledges a letter of Vysack sood the 7th, and states that he had received a letter from the Soorapoor chief, and that a *yad* had been determined on according to what they had agreed at Kuveer (Kolapore), which he sends. The writer then tells the Sirkey to come with Narrain Bhutt Sidhe, bringing the *yad*, when the business will be settled. He adds, after meeting, "*we shall settle about the private affair.*"

49. The third and fourth papers are not connected with the Soorapoor affair. The fifth is a memorandum of an agreement of nine articles, to be made for Mahdeo Row Sirkey; from which it would appear, that the Sirkey was to enter the service of the chief on certain conditions. There is nothing improper indicated in these. On the contrary, one of them is, that the loan advanced by the Sowcars is to be guaranteed "by the British officer at " Poona;" which proves, that so much, at least, of the transaction was to be made public.

50. The sixth paper is a letter from the Sirkey to the chief of Soorapoor, informing him that Agasee and Lukshmun had been deputed with a *yad* on the part of the Sowcar, and one regarding private concerns, and that, on the receipt of his reply, the bankers with the money, and an agent on his part, should be sent.

51. The seventh paper is from the Sirkey to Janardhun Punt Bhow Agasee, informing him that two lacs and a half of rupees were to be paid to the Soorapoor Sirkar, according to a *yad* sent separately; in conformity with which, he says, "bring it into an agreement, and do the business." The eighth is a letter from the same to the same, on the same subject, and acknowledges a letter sent by Narrain Bhutt Sirkey. The contents of this are similar to those of No. 6, and both are of the same date, or the 16th Rubee-ool-awul.

52. The ninth paper is an original letter from the Swamee to the chief of Soorapoor, stating that, on his agreeing to the *yad* sent, it would be transmitted to Sattara, and from thence the money with a Carcoon would be forwarded.

53. The tenth is a letter from the Swamee to Rajmania Venkut Rao Irimul, treasurer, informing him that he has forwarded the *yad* agreed upon by Janardhun Agasee and Lukshmun Sing, and requesting him to communicate its contents to the chief (Bulwunt Bhyree), and that, if he agreed, his reply would be sent to Sattara, and the Carcoon returned from thence with the

money. The eleventh is a letter from the Swamee to Bussapa Dessoy, Carbarry of the Soorapoor chief, similar in contents to No. 10.

54. The twelfth and last paper is a letter to the late Swamee from the wife of the Soorapoorkur, acknowledging one from the Swamee, and stating, "Bheem Rao Carcoon is sent on some business, to conclude which and send him back, thou our senior art great. Regarding various Government affairs of importance at this place, the Sreemunt has written. We have sent Lukshmun Sing to state further subjects to be communicated. For the advance we have agreed to instalments with Vadamoortee Sastree."

Minute
by the Governor
15 May 1838.

55. There is, I repeat, nothing in the above correspondence directly implicating the Raja of Sattara, and it contains no proof that anything more was contemplated than an advance of money to relieve the Soorapoor chief from his necessities; except the strong presumption,* that the money must have been raised under the influence of the Raja, the negotiation being conducted by his relation the Sirkey, who, with the banker from whom the greater portion of the loan was to be obtained, were active agents in the Goa intrigue. Allusions, moreover, are contained in some of the letters to "private arrangements," which to me appear very likely to be quite distinct from that regarding the loan, and the engagement for his own benefit between the Sirkey and the chief of Soorapoor. I may refer in particular to the letter from the Sirkey to Timmassa Shastry, which says, "*after meeting we shall settle about the private affair.*" It is also clear, that we have not the whole of the conditions on which the Sirkey agreed to obtain the loan. These consisted of fourteen articles, but the paper obtained by Mr. Dunlop contains only nine.

56. The banker, Teejeeram, admits† that he was applied to by the Sirkey to lend money to the Soorapoorkur about two years since, and produces a note, promising to advance Rupees 25,000, which fixes the date of the transaction, this being dated 4th May and 28th June 1836. The time, therefore, of the negotiations, is pregnant with suspicion; for in the following month the attempt on the fidelity of our Native officers was made and detected. Some of the Swamee's letters are identified by Morapunt Josce and Narrain Bhutt Chitney. Finally, Narrain Bhutt Sidhe distinctly states, that the correspondence is connected with the intrigues carried on with the chief of Soorapoor, though Mr. Dunlop does not appear to have examined him regarding the nature of the intrigues to which he refers.

57. On the whole, I am disposed to conjecture that the chief of Soorapoor having become involved in pecuniary difficulty, an attempt was made at Sattara to obtain a loan for him; and as this could scarcely be obtained without the assistance of the Raja, who was not likely to lend such assistance without looking for some return, and as the Raja is proved to have been at this very time engaged in hostile measures against us in other quarters, there is, in my opinion, probable ground for the information received from Mr. Wathen before these papers came into our possession, namely, that it was a part of the plans of the Raja to induce the Soorapoor chief to become a party to these hostile measures. It is with reluctance that I leave the matter in its present state, but the instructions of the Governor General preclude any further reference on the subject to the Resident at Hyderabad.

58. The three papers unconnected with the negotiation with Soorapoor are not altogether unworthy of notice. No. 3 is an original letter from Hunnunt Govind, the principal Carbarry of the late Swamee of Sunkeshwur, to Ramajee Punt, Carcoon of Maunsing Row Patunkur, who, I am informed, was in October 1824 expelled by a British force from the hill-fort of Powaghur in Guzerat, and whom consequently we may conclude to be inimical to our interests. The letter intimates, that Janardun Bhow Agasee had been residing at Sunkeshwur for five or seven months, and intended, "on account of
" some

* On this point I beg to refer to Mr. Dunlop's letter of the 16th February, and Lieutenant-Colonel Evans's of the 19th March 1838.

† *Vide* his deposition, dated 16th February.

SATTARA
PAPERS.Minute
by the Governor,
15 May 1838.

"some business," to proceed to "the force encamped at Gwalior," and requests aid of Ramjee in effecting this business. No. 4 is merely the direction of the above letter.

59. The meaning of the remaining paper would be quite unintelligible without the aid of Narrain Bhutt Sidhe, who states, that it is an answer written by the Swamee to a letter from Atmaran Bhutt Noolkur, the person to whom I have particularly alluded in the 19th paragraph of this minute, with a feigned allusion to Shree Wittoba Arowbekur, and that he knows that this relates to the Baroda affair, some account of which, and of the agency through which it was carried on, will be found in the third paragraph of his deposition. Among the papers said to have been left by the Swamee, a treaty with the Guicowar is specified, but Mr. Dunlop has not yet been able to obtain possession of it; and I merely allude to the subject as one at present involved in obscurity, but nevertheless indicating the existence of some deep-laid and extensive schemes of mischief on the part of the Swamee and those connected with them; among whom we have, I fear, ample proof that the Raja of Sattara was a principal.

60. After the above digression, which, for the reason already stated, I could not well avoid, I will now resume the Goa case, and proceed with my remarks on the evidence obtained by Mr. Spooner at Rutnagheery, in confirmation of what has been elicited at Sattara by Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans, the two inquiries being, as in the case of Dharwar, conducted quite independently of each other.

61. On the 31st of August 1837, Mr. Spooner reported that he had received information, that a body of men, in number about two hundred, had assembled at the village of Pallee in the Warree territory, four miles from Vingorla, with the intention of attacking the factory at that place, and carrying off four lacs of rupees which were kept in deposit there during the monsoon.

62. At the same time, a letter was received by the chief of Warree and by the British Vakeel stationed there, from a person named Gopall Sudjee Redkur, mentioning several persons by name as concerned in the affair; and on this information the chief of Warree secured five of them, and having examined them, forwarded their depositions to Mr. Spooner.

63. I will now submit extracts from the evidence of these individuals; premising that, though I condense the originals for the sake of brevity, I am not aware of omitting or altering a material word. These extracts will show, that the design on the Vingorla factory was formed by some of the associates of the late Nago Deorao, and at the same time illustrate the nature of that person's proceedings; and it is here worthy of remark, that it was obtained, not by any British functionary, but by the Native authorities at Warree, without having held any previous communication with Rutnagheery.

64. Hurbhut Ben Ramchunder Hubbeen states: "A person named Nana Waeed came from Sattara and informed me, that the Sirdars above the Ghauts had entered into a conspiracy to take possession of all the country at present in the possession of the British, and that he had come to collect men from the Warree country; that he had already engaged men from the Goa territory, and that he expected a supply of money from the Ghauts, on the receipt of which he should commence to take by force the forts of Malwan, Raree, and Vingorla. Nanna Waeed died; and about a month ago three of his associates, named Bapoo Ghatgay, Bawoo Sing Purdessee, and Balkoba, informed me that they had assembled two hundred men at Pallee, and requested me to collect more men and they would pay for them. I asked for what purpose, and they said, they intended to take the forts of Raree, Vingorla, and Malwan. I agreed, and enlisted about ten men."

65. When examined by Mr. Spooner on the 28th September last, this witness deposes as follows: "Nana Waeed, *alias* Nago Deorao, is an inhabitant of Warree in the Sattara country, and was for many years in the service of Sunker Acharya Swamee. About nine years ago he left the Swa-

SATTARA
PAPERS.Minute
by the Governme
15 May 1838.

“mee’s service, and went to reside in the Goa territory. In February 1836 he came to Sawunt Warree, accompanied by his two nephews, Dajeeba Waeed and Rambhow Waeed, and Balkoba Kelkur. Here he died of dropsy in 1836; after which his associates dispersed, some to Goa and others to Warree in the Sattara territory. Five days after his death his son came to Warree, and having performed the funeral ceremonies returned to Wace. Nana Waeed spent about five rupees daily in feeding Brahmins and religious ceremonies. This was not obtained at Warree, but, *according to rumour, it was sent from time to time from Sattara.* Bapoo Ghatgay and Bawoo Sing Purdsee were in Nana Waeed’s service as troopers. These two and Balkoba Kelkur told some persons at Warree, that the chief of Nagpore, Scindia, and other Sirdars, intended to wage war with the British and to take possession of their country; and I heard that Nana Waeed was deputed to this part of the country (Warree) by the Raja of Sattara. In November 1836, Balkoba Kelkur, Bapoo Ghatgay, Bawoo Sing Purdsee, and Ramchunderbhut, a personal servant of Nana Waeed, came to Warree, where also was Morapunt Josce. In August 1837 they commenced collecting about one hundred men, intending to collect others from the Goa territory, for the purpose of attacking the country in the vicinity of Rarce and Vingorla. The Raja of Sattara and chief of Meeritch were connected with this affair, and some men were to have been sent to them. I was requested to enlist men, and received ten rupees from Bapoo Ghatgay, which I distributed among four men whose services I engaged. It was settled that we should assemble at Pallee, and Balkoba Kelkur had gone into the Goa territory. The men with Bapoo Ghatgay met at Pallee on or about the 6th August. Bhao Sing was expected with some men from Pedney in the Goa territory, but the plot having been discovered we dispersed, and Bapoo Ghatgay went to Araba.”

66. On being cross-examined, the witness further states to this effect: “Balkoba Tatia, Bapoo Ghatgay, and Bhao Sing and Purdsee, told him two or three times, that all the Sirdars above the Ghauts had entered into a combination to take possession of the country belonging to the British. This was after Nana Waeed’s death: I heard nothing of this during his lifetime. They did not mention the names of the Sirdars, but that the Raja of Sattara, chief of Meerich, and the Sirdars had entered into the combination. On the 7th August Bapoo Ghatgay and Ramchunder Bhutt came to Warree, and informed me that they *had already assembled men at Pedney in the Goa territory*, and asked me where the men were whom I had promised to assemble. I informed him that two of the men I had enlisted had been seized by the chief of Warree, and one had returned home; on which he became angry, and wished me to refund the ten rupees. I agreed to collect men about the middle of July, and Pallee was the place of rendezvous. From the conversation of Balkoba Tatia and Bapoo Ghatgay, I inferred that the combination had been going on for two years. Bapoo Ghatgay said that he resided at Poona. Ramchunder Bhutt said, that one hundred and fifty men were assembled at Pallee: from another person I learnt that fifty men were assembled, and that one hundred were expected from the Goa territory. Gopall Sudjee Reakur and Bud Devree of Pallee were concerned in this affair.”

67. Rambhuth Ben Ludasew Bhut Abhiankur, inhabitant of a village of the Malwan Talooka, “and lately in the service of Nana Waeed,” in his deposition before the authorities at Warree, states as follows: “I went with Bapoo Ghatgay and fifteen others to Pallee, where about two hundred and fifty men with arms had assembled. Gopall Sudjee Reakur informed me, they intended to attack the detachment stationed at Vingorla; on which I became alarmed and left them.”

68. In his examination before Mr. Spooner* he states: “I live in the Company’s territories, and am a bikhshook, or one who lives on alms. About
“eighteen

Vide Mr. Spooner’s letter, 15th October 1837.

SATTARA
PAPERS

Minute
by the Governor,
15 May 1838.

" eighteen months ago I went to Warree, to the house of Nago Deorao, *alias* " Nana Waeed, of Warree, in the Sattara country. A relation of mine, by " name Bickoba Sidia, from the Goa territory, who for two or three years was " a personal servant of Nago Deorao's, asked me also to enter his service I " consented, and remained with Nago four or five months until his death. At " that time his two nephews Rambhow and Dajeeba Waeed, Morapunt Josee, " and Balkoba Tatia, were with him; Bapoo Ghatgay was also an attendant " on Nana Waeed." After alluding to Nago's circumstances, the witness " says: " He was in the habit of sending some of his servants to Sattara every " one or two months. He died of dropsy in August 1836, and his son came " to Warree and performed the funeral ceremonies. After his death, Balkoba " Kelkur, Rambhow Waeed, Bapoo Ghatgay, Bhow Sing and others, remained " at Warree. I did not get my pay; and Balkoba Tatia being in embar- " rassed circumstances, pawned Nana Waeed's silver articles, and I returned " home. In August 1837 Balkoba sent a person to persuade me to re-enter " his service, and I did so. Balkoba commenced to collect 1,000 or 1,200 " men, on pretence of taking them to Sattara to be employed there, but he " did not succeed. He then formed a plan for collecting some men at " Pallee, to plunder the treasure in deposit at Vingorla, in concert with " Bapoo Ghatgay, Bhow Sing Purdesce, Hurbhut Hubbeea, Dhondba Kote- " nees, Gopall Sudjee Reakur (a Sepoy of Dadeebhye's), and two or three " men from Pedney in the Goa territory. One or two Bhutts from Pallee, " and Balnoba Soobadar, were also concerned. I returned to my village on " the 6th of August, and Gopall Sudjee gave me a letter to Bapoo Ghaonkur, " requesting him to collect ten men. The following day I went with Bapoo " and ten men towards Pallee; but as Gopall Sudjee did not meet us, " according to promise, when half way, we returned. On the 8th August " Hurbhut and Dhondba Kotences sent some men from Warree to Pallee, and " I accompanied. I saw there about two hundred men, and Gopall Sudjee " and Bapoo Ghatgay said others were in the village, and that they intended " to attack Vingorla about nine that night; but the attack was deferred, on " account of some men not having arrived from Pedney. I became alarmed " and wished to return, but was prevented. On the 10th I returned to " Warree: Bapoo Ghatgay and the others remained at Pallee. On the 11th " Dhondba Kotences sent for me, and told me not to mention to any one the " meeting of the *bund* at Pallee. I took an oath of secrecy, but communi- " cated the whole to Morapunt Lelleh, prime minister at Warree. Balkoba " and Bapoo Ghatgay reside above the Ghauts. Nana Waeed came to " Warree to collect men and take them to Sattara: he and his friends were " always talking of collecting men, therefore I know this. It was his inten- " tion to obtain funds from Sattara, but whether he did so or not I do not " know."

69. Watoo Abbajec, in his deposition at Warree, states: " I was asked by " Hurbhut Hubbeea to enter the service of Bapoo Ghatgay and Tatia Vyed " (Balkoba Kelkur), to take possession of Vingorla, and was informed, that " the Portuguese authorities at Goa had been in readiness to afford them " every assistance. I attempted to dissuade them from their purpose; but " Hurbhut told me, Gopall Sudjee, Bapoo Ghatgay, and Tatia Vyed, had " then gone to Pedney and Araba, in the Goa territory, to procure a large " body of men, and requested me to follow him to Pallee, but I declined."

70. Before Mr. Spooner this person deposes: " I am now and have for " many years been, in the service of Dadeebhyec. On the 6th August 1837 " I met Hurbhut Hubbeea, who informed me that Balkoba Kelkur and Bapoo " Ghatgay were assembling four or five hundred men; that Gopall Sudjee was " concerned; that they had gone to Pedney, and that if I wanted service I " should go and meet them there, and that they would give me money. I " asked, to what place the men were to be sent; and he informed me, some " men were to be collected from Warree, and that four or five hundred men " (Feringees), armed with muskets, were to be assembled at Pallee, from " whence the whole body of men were to proceed to Vingorla, and that Witoo " Gunajee of Pedney was employed to bring the men from Pedney. I asked, " for

SATTARA
PAPERS.Minute
by the Govern
15 May 1836

"for what purpose they were to go to Vingorla, and he referred me to Balkoba Kelkur, Bapoo Ghatgay, and Gopall Sudjee Reakur. I declined to go to Pedney, and went and told Dadee-bhace's minister, Dhondba Kotenees, what I had heard, as Pallee belonged to her. On the following evening I met Hurbhut at the house of Visram Furjund, and he again asked me to enter the service of Balkoba, but I refused. After this I was cast into prison. Hurbhut informed me, that Bapoo Ghatgay and Balkoba came from the Sattara country; they had resided at Warree about two years. Nana Waced came to Warree about two years ago, and died there about eighteen months since."

71. Ram Sabajee, Pundit, inhabitant of Khas, in the Sawunt Warree territory, deposes at Warree: "Bhaoo Sing Purdessee, with his servant Ramjee Ghatwal and a Brahmin, came to Khas, and asked me to enter the service of his master, who was at Pallee. I accordingly, with two others, went to Pallee, and met Bapoo Ghatgay and Gopall Sudjee, who informed me that in conjunction with Hurbhut Hubbeea and Wattoo Abbajee, they were procuring armed men to take the forts of Vingorla, Malwan, and Raree, and that others were expected to join. I agreed to join, provided Dadeebhyee's servants came and remained two nights at Pallee. After which the party absconded, on Bapoo Ghatgay receiving intelligence that the British authorities were making inquiries regarding us."

72. Before Mr. Spooner this man deposes: "About the 2d August 1837, Bhaoo Sing Purdessee came to my village to enlist men. I was asked to join; I agreed to do so for pay. Bhaoo Sing said, his master, Bapoo Ghatgay, would settle this at Pallee, with reference to my ability to serve as a Sepoy. I went to Pallee about the 9th August with Bapoo Pundit and *Dakloo Christian*, and six men of Torees in the Goa territory. Gopall Sudjee came there and said Bapoo Ghatgay had gone to Warree, and that he would in the mean time supply us with food. Bapoo Ghatgay arrived the next day, and promised an advance of five rupees to each man. He said that Dadeebhyee intended to adopt a son, and that this was the cause of the assemblage; but Gopall Sudjee said it was made for the purpose of taking the forts of Malwan, Raree, Vingorla, and the surrounding country, for which purpose five or seven hundred men had been collected. I was convinced that a gang was being formed, and therefore told Gopall Sudjee I would remain if Dadeebhyee's people came; and was about to return, when Gopall and Bapoo learnt that the British Government were in pursuit of them, and ran away. Nana Waced resided at Warree, and Bapoo Ghatgay and Bhow Sing Purdessee were with him. Only six men came from the Goa territory, but Gopall Sudjee said that a man had been sent to bring some men from that territory, and Bapoo Ghatgay said that the money was to come from Pedney, Araba, and Vingorla."

73. Visram Furjund deposes before the chief of Warree: "Hurbhut Hubbeea asked me to entertain five or six persons, promising two months' pay in advance. Bapoo Ghatgay and Bhaoo Sing informed me they were going to Pedney and Araba, and on their return would bring money to pay us. On their return they gave me one rupee, and Hurbhut said they intended to take the forts of Vingorla and Raree, on the arrival of five or six hundred persons who were expected at Pallee."

74. Before Mr. Spooner he deposes: "About the 6th August 1837 Hurbhut Hubbeea informed me, that one of the servants of the late Nana Waced had come from Meerich for the purpose of enlisting men; and asked me to enter his service. I agreed, and asked what pay I should receive. He said that Nana Waced's servant would give, in the first instance, an advance of five rupees. He lent me one rupee, and a few days after I accompanied him to the house of Kesow Naique Petrie, and met Bapoo Ghatgay, Gopall Sudjee, Bhawoo Rana, Chandoo Hanekur, and a Brahmin, who were in conversation. About the 6th August Hurbhut desired me to hold myself in readiness to go where they wished, and said money was expected for our expenses from Vingorla. Two or three days afterwards Hurbhut told me of the arrival of
"the

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Governor,
15 May 1898.

"the servant of Nana Waeed, and directed me to go to Pallee, when I should receive money. On the same day Wattoo Abbajee and myself were seized by the chief of Warree. Nana Waeed lived at Warree about two years. Hurbhut told me it was intended to bring about two hundred men from the Pedney Turuf, and that Gopall Sudjee and Bapoo Ghatgay were to bring them."

75. On the 11th November Mr. Spooner reported the apprehension, and transmitted the depositions of eight other persons, accused of having joined the Pallee gang. These depositions contain little that is material.

76. Bapoo bin Essoo Gowankur. The only material fact stated by this person is, that one of the five persons whose evidence is above alluded to, Ramchunder Bhutt, came to his house about the 29th July 1837, and asked him to enter the service of a Sirdar, who had come from Colapore to Warree to collect men, and that he agreed.

77. Mukund bin Seudjee. This person states, that Gopall Sudjee informed him that two hundred men were coming from Pedney in the Goa territory, and that they had been collected by Atmaram Purub Dessoy of that place, and that, when they arrived, it was intended to attack Raree, and perform other exploits. Gopall Sudjee gave him some rice, and he heard from an old woman who cooked it, that about fifty men had already assembled at Pallee. Gopall endeavoured to induce witness to join, but he refused.

78. Auto Ramjee Hongra, tobacco-farmer of Pallee, states, that Gopall Sudjee asked him to join a party who were to assemble to attack the fort of Tiracol in the Goa territory, but that he refused.

79. Bisso bin Pando Pundit acknowledges that he actually joined the gang, and that Gopall Sudjee gave him food. Dhacta Christian was of the party.

80. Bhickwo bin Wettoba states, that he was twice asked by Hurbhut Hubbea to enlist, but he refused to do so.

81. Dhondo Sudashew Kotness. This person is the prime minister of Dadeebhyce, a relation of the chief of Warree, to whom the village of Pallee belongs. He denies all connexion with the plot; but states, that he examined Wittoo Abbajee, and learned from him that the gang under Tatia Waeed and Bapoo Ghatgay intended to attack Vingorla, and carry off the treasure.

82. Bud Dewree bin Nil Dewree admits, that he was at Pallee, and purchased some rice from Gopall Sudjee, but denies having been in any way connected with the gang which assembled at that village.

83. Babna Turzund admits he was at Pallee, and met Gopall Sudjee, but declares he did not join the gang.

84. On the 15th November Mr. Spooner reported, that two more persons had been seized, and forwarded their depositions.

85. Bhow bin Baborow Kana states, that he met Hurbhut Hubbea with three other persons, who the former said were Bapoo Ghatgay, Bhao Sing, and Bajjee Bhut. Hurbhut, the witness says, "asked me to collect two hundred men. I said I would settle this when we met at Warree. Some days after I again met Hurbhut, and asked him where and in what manner the men were to be employed, and what pay they would receive. He asked me to take an oath of secrecy, which after some demur I did; and he then informed me, a plot had been formed to attack the forts of Raree, Vingorla, and Malwan. About this time Balkoba Tatia and Gopall Sudjee came in, and Hurbhut informed me, the former was Nana Waeed's brother-in-law, and that Nana's nephew, Rambhow, had collected two hundred men at Araba, and that it was intended to assemble at Pallee. I declined to have any thing to do with the affair."

86. Satoo Ramjee admits, that he went to Pallee, and agreed to enter Hurbhut's service, but pretends that he was ignorant of the nature of the service to be performed.

87. The

SATTARA
PAPERS.Minute
by the Governor.
15 May 1838.

87. The only additional evidence obtained, regarding the design on the treasure at Vingorla, will be found in the deposition of Narrain Bhutt Sidhe, already mentioned in the sixteenth and three following paragraphs of this minute. This man says: "A plot was laid to attack and plunder the treasure sent from Dharwar, at Vingorla, the principal person concerned in which, on the part of the Swamee, was Balajee Punt Joglekur. Besides him, Bapoo Hatgee (Ghatgay), Bhow Sing, Ram Bhow Waced, Morapunt Putwurdhun, and the brother of Atmaram Bhut, and others went. The people who took the treasure to Vingorla were on their guard, and the plan did not succeed. After laying this plot the Swamee died. His object was, after seizing the treasure, to raise an insurrection in the Rutnagheery Collectorate."

88. I have been thus particular in detailing the above evidence, because I conceive the design on the treasure in deposit at Vingorla to have emanated, however incidentally, from the intrigues of Nago Deorao at Goa. Hurbhutt Hubbeea, one of the chief persons engaged in forming the Pallee gang, states, that Nana Waced and his associates informed him, that the chief of Nagpore, Scindia, and other Sirdars above the Ghauts, had leagued together to take possession of all the territory possessed by the British, and the projected capture of the forts of Raree, Malwan, and Vingorla, is distinctly alluded to by almost all the persons concerned in the Pallee affair. Who, however, were the chief agents concerned in the design on the Vingorla treasury? Almost all of them were, more or less, connected with the late Nago Deorao, Balkoba Kelkur, his brother-in-law, Ram Bhow Waced, his nephew, Bapoo Ghatgay and Bhao Sing Purdesec, troopers in his service, and Ramchunder Bhutt, one of his menial servants, performed the most active part in getting up the *bund*; and we can now understand the observation of Balkoba Kelkur, when he told Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans's emissaries "that he was a criminal," alluding no doubt to the conspicuous part which he had taken in the proceedings at Pallee. From whence also were the gangs to be collected? From the Goa territories, the scene of Nago Deorao's long-standing intrigues; and it is clearly proved, that Balkoba and other persons implicated in the design went to Pedney, to bring the persons collected in that territory to the scene of action. The prisoner, Wattoo, states, that he was informed "that the Portuguese authorities at Goa were ready to afford every assistance," and that four or five hundred Feriugees, or Portuguese, armed with muskets, were to be assembled at Pallee; and another of the prisoners mentions, that a Christian, named Dakloo or Dhacta, and six men from a Goa village, actually came to Pallee. Another states, that Atmaram Punt, Dessoy of Pedney, was also concerned in the affair. It will also be observed, that according to the statement of Morapunt Josce, Bapoo Ghatgay, undoubtedly one of the conspirators, served Atmaram Punt for some time in the capacity of horsekeeper. Great light is thrown on the whole subject by the evidence already mentioned of Narrain Bhutt Sidhe, which was obtained at Dharwar, and is therefore distinct from the inquiry at Rutnagheery.

89. I cannot help adverting to another circumstance connected with the case. Mr. Spooner applied to the Government of Goa to seize some of the persons concerned who had escaped into the Goa territory, and the following extract from the report of the major commanding the province of Perim is not unimportant. "Bahunbaec Tatta went to Warree many days ago. Bhow Sing Purdesec, Bapoo Ghatgay, and Gopall Sudjec, to the Ghauts. *They are the subjects of the Raja of Sattara; and it is said* that they, being informed they were accused of being the principal leaders in the case now under investigation, regarding the robbery of the Vingorla treasury, escaped to the Ghauts." (*Vide* Mr. Spooner's letters, dated 26th and 29th September 1837.)

90. I am anxious, however, to state clearly, in what sense and to what extent, I connect this abortive plot at Pallee with the proceedings of the late Nago Deorao and his associates. I have not the remotest suspicion that any of the present authorities at Goa countenanced the Pallee plot; nor is there the slightest evidence, nor do I consider it probable, that it obtained any

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Governor,
15 May 1838.

countenance from Sattara. I conceive, however, that the mundullee of Nago, or at least the dregs of them, having long been accustomed to ideas of insurrection against the British Government, and indeed having gained their livelihood by being employed in schemes of that nature, and now deprived of the leader who had directed their proceedings, and moreover being distressed for the common means of living, were irresistibly tempted, by an occasion which promised them abundant wealth, to convert their long cherished schemes of ambition into a miserable plan of outrage and plunder. It is not the first time that men who have begun by plotting rebellion have ended with becoming common robbers. Still these transactions are worthy of attention, as illustrating the character of the persons engaged in them, and the nature of those intrigues of which they were the immature fruits; but the chief value which I attach to the evidence connected with them, is, because of the corroboration which it gives to the information obtained at Sattara, of the history of Nago Deorao, of the patronage under which he acted, of the objects which he had in view, and of his operations in furtherance of his purpose.

91. My Colleagues will not fail to observe, that the evidence of Hurbhut Hubblee and Ramchunder Bhut confirms, in several respects, that previously obtained at Sattara, respecting Nago Deorao and his proceedings generally. I particularly refer to the circumstances under which he died, and the persons who were present with him at the time, his obtaining funds at Sattara and constantly maintaining a communication with that place, and his being employed by the Raja.

92. I beg also to refer to the evidence submitted by Mr. Spooner, in a letter of the 2d November connected with these proceedings, of two persons, named Ram Naik Petree and Juggunauth Luximan Neerookur, with whom Nago resided for some time during his last stay at Warree. These are evidently, what Mr. Spooner considers them, unwilling witnesses; but they confirm several circumstances in the history of Nago, and more especially his intercourse whilst at Warree with Sattara, his being said to have received some money from above the Ghauts, his connexion with Raojee Kotences, and the fact that Narrain Bhutt Chitney came to him while at Warree, and after remaining five or six days, proceeded to "Pedney and Araba." Nor can I help noticing, that the second witness quite confirms a fact which I thought myself justified in asserting on the authority of the oral evidence obtained at Sattara, namely, that Nago, on his last visit to Warree, was not obliged, in the first instance, by illness to remain at that place, but had afterwards been seized with the fatal malady. The Neerookur says clearly, that after remaining at Warree twenty or twenty-five days, Nago went to a temple at Walowlee in the Warree territory, whence he returned to Warree after a stay of fifteen days, and that it was during his residence at Walowlee that he became afflicted with the dropsy, of which he afterwards died.

93. In his letter of the 11th November last, Mr. Spooner thus abstracts the information furnished by the witnesses he had examined regarding Nago Deorao. The coincidence between this and the information before obtained at Sattara will be obvious. Nago Deorao, alias Nana Waced, took up his residence in the Goa territory some years ago. In April 1836, he came to Warree, where he died about July of the same year. Whilst at Warree he and his associates were well provided with money, which they received from the Raja of Sattara, and from Raojee Kotences of Araba in the Goa territory. After his death no further supply of money was received from Sattara, and his associates, Balkoba Kelkur, Ram Bhow Waced, Bapoo Ghatgay, and Bhow Sing Purdessee, were in distressed circumstances, and were obliged to part with some of their horses and household goods. These persons, however, remained at Warree until August 1837, when they were obliged to abscond, in consequence of their being concerned as leaders of the Pallee *bund*. We have recently ordered all British subjects concerned in the meditated attack on Vingorla to be committed for trial, and it is by no means unlikely that something more will be elicited, to shew the connection which, I conjecture, existed between that design and the intrigues of Nago Deorao.

94. There is still, however, one other important transaction of the Sattara intrigues to be noticed, as having been to some extent confirmed by information obtained at Rutnagheery; namely, the mission of Mahdeo Row Sirkey to meet the Governor of Goa about the time of his resigning the Government of that place.* This is contained in the report of the Government Vakcel at Sawunt Warree, dated 13th December, and forwarded to Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans by Mr. Spooner on the 22d December last. In this it is stated, that the Sirkey went to Sattara for employment in August or September 1834, and returned in January 1835, and remained at Warree for nine months. In August or September 1835 he went to Goa, for the purpose of performing ablation in the sacred stream Gomanchul, and returned in eight or ten days to Warree; and after two or two months and a half he again went to Sattara, and about fifteen months after his arrival he died at that place. As remarked by Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans in his letter of the 20th of January last, the above report made, be it observed, by a person who had no knowledge of the object of the reference he was answering, exactly corresponds with some of the particulars of the mission of the Sirkey to Goa, and his subsequent return to Warree and Sattara, as deposed to by the witnesses examined at the latter place.

95. On the whole, I entirely agree with Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans, when he observes, in the 36th paragraph of his report of the 11th November, that the evidence obtained at Rutnagheery should not be passed over in silence, "*inasmuch as that evidence was obtained in a distant part of the country, and without any previous knowledge of the proceedings here (at Sattara), yet still confirming them in a remarkable manner.*" This remark furnishes my reason, and I trust my justification, for the attention which, in the present minute, I have bestowed on the Rutnagheery evidence, and for the still greater prominence which I have given to that obtained at Dharwar.

(Signed) R. GRANT.

15th May 1838.

MINUTE BY MR. JAMES FARISH,

Dated 17th May 1838.

Minute by
Mr. James Farish
17 May 1838.

1. The difficult situation in which this Government has been placed in this inquiry, by the approbation which our course of proceeding at first obtained from the Government of India, and the subsequent indication of a change of sentiment, and of dissatisfaction that the inquiry was not brought to a speedy termination, rendered it of paramount importance to indicate the uniform course which has been pursued in the business by this Government.

2. To do this, the clearest exposition of the result of the investigation was necessary, and the exposition now given, not more expanded than the occasion calls for, is amply sufficient. The Acting Resident's able report, with the evidence arranged as he had taken it, and Mr. Willoughby's convincing summaries of the evidence, as bearing on each point in the case, are valuable; but the remarkably complete and connected nature of the evidence, oral and documentary, and the singularly striking corroboration of facts elicited from one kind of evidence by that which is supplied from another, evidently free from all concert or collusion, the whole so ably and lucidly unfolded and arranged in the Right Honourable the Governor's minute of the 5th May, carries perfect conviction to my mind of the truth of the main circumstances developed by the overwhelming mass of connected, consistent, and unquestionable testimony produced; of a nature, also, apparently incapable of being controverted.

3. The

* *Vide Summary of Evidence marked AA. 9, accompanying my minute of 5th May 1838.*

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute by
Mr. James Farish,
17 May 1838.

3. The main point established is the guilt of the Raja of Sattara of flagrant violation of Article V. of the treaty with him, in having continued for a long period to maintain treasonable communication with the Governor of Goa, for objects hostile to the British rule.

4. I need not here enumerate the other points established. I have diligently and carefully gone over the condensed evidence, verifying important facts in many instances, and I have felt that my conviction was carried along with the Right Honourable the Governor in the deductions drawn by him in his minute.

5. I beg here to record, that on a careful comparison of the signatures on the documents A. and B., adverted to in paragraph 219 of that minute, they appear to me to correspond with the signature of Don Manoel, subscribed to the letters, undoubtedly genuine, addressed by him to the Governor of Bombay.

6. Extravagant as the Raja's projects have been, the reference to the former greatness and power of the Portuguese in India* shews how much of this has arisen from his ignorance of the altered condition of that kingdom in Europe. The question under investigation, as has been justly observed, is not, however, the reasonableness of his designs, but the fact of their having been conceived and cherished; and this I consider to have been fully established by the portion of evidence already examined.

(Signed) J. FARISH.

17th May 1838.

Minute
by the Governor,
18 May 1838.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Dated 18th May 1838.

1. In circulating my second minute on the Sattara case, I regret to inform my Colleagues, that it is quite impossible to complete the series I have to submit before the 21st instant, the day fixed for the despatch of the *Berenice*.

2. It is, therefore, with extreme reluctance that I am compelled to deviate from my first intentions, and to propose that our present report to the Secret Committee shall be exclusively confined to the proceedings connected with the intrigues at Goa, which are commented on in a complete form in my minutes of the 5th and 15th instant.

3. It is desirable, however, that the Secret Committee should be apprised generally of what further proceedings are to follow, in order that they may not pass a final decision on the proceedings now to be transmitted.

4. I have now under preparation a minute, comprising my remarks on the Raja of Sattara's intercourse with Moodhojee Bhonsleh, the ex-Raja of Nagpore. This is in a considerable state of forwardness; and I have no hesitation in saying that, by the evidence before me, that intercourse is fully proved, and that it was treasonable towards the British Government.

5. I have also to submit a statement, or confession, made by Appa Sahib, the Raja's brother, in which he acknowledges his having (though, as he alleges, under the influence of fear) participated in one flagrant act of treason committed by the Raja.

6. I shall, after disposing of these cases, submit a final minute, in which I shall—

1st. Recapitulate, as briefly as possible, the various intrigues which I conceive proved against the Raja.

2d. Point

* *Vide* No. 34 of list E.

2d. Point out, and this I can do most satisfactorily, the real key to the Raja's conduct.

3d. Submit my opinion as to how this important case should be finally disposed of.

7. I need not assure my Colleagues, that no exertion will be wanting on my part to bring my labours to a close, and I propose that a sailing vessel shall be dispatched from hence to the Red Sea as soon as our proceedings are completed. Although I deeply regret this unavoidable delay, still it will be attended with one great advantage: the opinions of my Colleagues will accompany our final despatch.

(Signed) R. GRANT.

18th May 1838.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Governor
18 May 1838.

MINUTE BY MR. JAMES FARISH,

Dated 19th May 1838.

Minute by
Mr. James Farish
19 May 1838.

1. This complete review of the Dharwar and Rutmagheery evidence adds many points of remarkable corroboration to the clear and incontrovertible chain of proofs afforded in the documents and testimony summed up in the Right Hon. the Governor's first minute, and opens out further and more overt acts of hostility on the part of the Raja.

2. I quite concur in the further inquiries suggested in the 33d and other paragraphs. The Government of India could never, knowing the facts, direct otherwise than that every really important branch of this inquiry should be traced out.

3. Upon the 37th paragraph it occurs to me to suggest, that if Mr. Dunlop should obtain information in which he could place complete confidence, of the place where either the thylee or treaty are, he should be authorized, if he judges it the best course, to seize them by either civil or military power. By the last, however, only in an extreme case.

4. The circumstances are such as, I submit, must be held to supersede all privileges of a Sirdar.

5. The reference to Scindia's being connected with these proceedings, in connection with so many other parts of the plan, all of which are established as far as the inquiry has gone, give remarkable weight and importance to this implication.

6. In regard to Nago Waeed's proceedings for raising levies to attack Vingorla, Malwan, &c., and advancing bounty to men engaged; may not this account for the disposal of part of 8,000 rupees advanced under the plea of bearing the expenses of an agent to accompany Don Manoel?

7. Under the information derived from this inquiry, the large body of followers which the Raja of Colapore has been permitted to take with him on his pilgrimage should be closely watched, and there is additional ground for objecting to his augmenting their numbers. Indeed, on the first suspicion of any sinister object, Mr. Dunlop should be prepared to require him to disband all but his personal retinue and safeguard.

(Signed) J. FARISH.

19th May 1838.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

MINUTE BY MR. G. W. ANDERSON.

Dated 21st May 1838.

Minute by Mr.
G. W. Anderson,
21 May 1838.

1. I have given that attention to the evidence, both oral and documentary, here presented, which the great importance of the subject demands. I have perused with equal attention the elaborate minute of the Right Hon. the Governor, and I can come to no other conclusion than that it is established against the Raja, that he has, for a series of years, carried on and been concerned in a treasonable correspondence with the late Governor of Goa; treasonable, in having for its object the ultimate subversion of the British authority, and treasonable, as being in direct infringement of the treaty of alliance, and to the peculiar obligation under which the Raja lies to the British Government.

2. I do not propose, at the present moment, to take a minute view of the evidence, and to show, in detail, how it brings out the case (that is, in fact, done, in a manner, perhaps, to leave nothing to be done, by the Right Hon. the Governor); but I shall have an opportunity of doing this, if it seems necessary, when the whole case of these fatal proceedings on the part of the Raja are before the Board.

3. For the present I will briefly say, that I think it conclusively established that Nago Deorao was the agent of the Raja; that it was through him the treasonable negotiations were carried on; that the Raja authorized, and made himself responsible for, these negotiations; that he was cognizant of their wild and hostile nature; and that he advanced money to this and other agents employed.

4. The secret and hasty visit to Sattara of the Portuguese Doctor Herculanio; the evidence gained from the books of the banker Teejeeram, made stronger to my mind by the denials of Rowlojee Naik; the confirmation of Herculanio's connection with the agency, found on the seizure of his papers in the person of Raojee Kotenees at Bombay; the papers found after the death of Nago Deorao as having belonged to him, and in particular the paper containing his dying requests to the Raja; the irregular mode in which the whole evidence has been obtained, being the evidence of persons found and brought from different and distant parts of the country, together with the kind of key to great part of it given by the Dewan Govind Row, shewing the utter impossibility of collusion; are some of the chief points, independent of the evidence in the several depositions, that carry conviction to my mind of the story being a true story, and though singularly improbable, there are circumstances which it is evident in the character, the feelings, and even the position of the Raja, which will account for it. These circumstances will, of course, be fully developed by the Board at the conclusion of its view of these proceedings. For the present I will only observe, that nothing in the character of the Raja appears to me more remarkable, as coming out of this case now before the Board, than the long and successful deception he has practised to those officers who have been accredited to his court, and who have generally terminated their official connections with it with praise of his virtues and conduct as a prince, and their persuasion of his faithfulness and sense of obligation to the British Government.

5th. I record, that I have compared the signature of Don Manoel, the late Governor of Goa, to the letters *a* and *b*, found among the papers of Nago Deorao, with the signature of Don Manoel to the letters he has sent to this Government, and I think the signatures to be the signatures of one and the same person.

(Signed) G. W. ANDERSON.

21st May 1838.

MINUTE BY MR. G. W. ANDERSON.

SATTARA
PAPERS.*Dated 22d May 1838.*Minute by Mr.
G. W. Anderson
22 May 1838.

The evidence of Narrain Bhutt Sidhe obtained at Dharwar, and under circumstances of ignorance as to what had been deposed to by the witnesses at Sattara, is certainly a very remarkable confirmation of the evidence given by those witnesses.

In other respects, the evidence obtained, either by Mr. Dunlop at Dharwar or Mr. Spooner at Rutnagheery, though in some respects corroborative, does not materially implicate the Raja of Sattara. It affords room for suspicion and for inference, but it is not direct to that Prince. It shews intrigue, mystery, and a kind of rumour or persuasion that there was a plot going on hostile to the British Government, in which it was considered, as a thing almost of notoriety, that the Raja was concerned. If this were all against his Highness, of course the subject would scarcely occupy the attention of the Board for a moment.

I concur in the further proceedings to be called for from Mr. Dunlop; and I think, with Mr. Farish, that a more effectual means than the temporary sequestration of the Swamee's villages should be adopted, to gain the important papers stated to be in his treasury. If Mr. Dunlop has information that he can rely upon, of the papers being really of the character he supposes, and that the papers are to be obtained, I think he should be authorized to obtain them by force, if they cannot be otherwise obtained. If Mr. Dunlop determines upon this course, he should proceed either himself to the place, or depute one of his assistants to conduct the proceeding.

The witness Narrain Bhutt, with the persons he refers to as cognizant of the papers being in the treasury, should be called upon to attend at the time.

I abstain from minutely commenting upon the evidence, as it might be thought unnecessarily tending to swell out these already voluminous proceedings; whatever is prominent in the evidence, at the same time, has in fact been brought out by the Right Honourable the Governor.

I do not know what is the course the Right Honourable the Governor proposes should be finally pursued; but I think that, if a final decision or final report is made to the Honourable Court, that it will be just that the Raja should have an opportunity of affording an explanation of what is considered to be established against his Highness.

For this end, I think, the various facts found, shewing the Raja to have been implicated in intrigues and conspiracies, having for their end the subversion of the British authority, should be succinctly stated to his Highness, and that his Highness should be informed that Government is very willing to receive any explanatory refutation of these facts which his Highness may be pleased to afford.

After this, I think, the proceedings will be ripe for the report of the Board and the decision of the Honourable Court.

(Signed) G. W. AN

22d May 1838.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

*Dated 24th May 1838.*Minute
by the Governor
24 May 1838.

1. In pursuance of the intention expressed in my minute of the 18th instant, I have now to offer some remarks on the intercourse which is alleged to have taken place between the Raja of Sattara with Moodhojee Bhonsleh, commonly called Appa Sahib, the ex-Raja of Nagpore, who has for some years past been residing as a state prisoner at Joudpore.

2. The first mention of this intercourse will be found in the evidence recorded by the Sattara Commission, on the tenth day of their proceedings.
For

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Governor,
24 May 1838.

For reasons then mentioned, the name of the informant is not disclosed by the Commissioners; but, as there is now no longer any cause for concealment, I may mention that the person alluded to is Ballajee Punt Nuttoo. It is well known, that this individual was Native agent to Mr. Elphinstone during the transactions which ended in the downfall of the Peishwa. Captain Grant Duff pays a merited tribute to his "vigilance, vigour, fidelity, and firmness, at that trying period;" and observes, that he "proved himself well entitled to the munificent reward which was conferred upon him." Ballajee Punt Nattoo was at one time in the favour, if not in the confidence, of the Sattara Raja, although now hated and vilified by that Prince and his associates. No man can be better qualified to cope with the crooked politics of a Mahratta Durbar; and being already in affluence, it does not appear that he has any motive for the part which he has taken in the recent inquiries at Sattara, other than that which he professes, his fidelity to the power to whom he owes his fortunes.

3. Before the Commission he deposed as follows: "Within the last twelve months it has come to my knowledge, that his Highness has entered into communications with Moodhojee Bhonsleh, the ex-Raja of Nagpore, now at Joudpore; with Hyderabad, with Oodepore, and, I have heard, with Nagpore. He likewise communicated frequently with Goa. His object appears to be to enlarge his dominions, to expel the English, and to raise disturbances. The Raja's own brother, Appa Sahib, informed me yesterday, that three days ago his Highness burnt a letter which he had received from Moodhojee Bhonsleh. This letter, and another to Balla Sahib Senaputty, were brought by Sewannud Shastry, who was twice deputed to Joudpore under different pretexts." The Commissioners observe on this deponent: "We do not place implicit confidence on this information, because it was obtained from the Raja's brother, who, although ostensibly on friendly terms, is believed to be at enmity with him." But they suggest that, with a view to further inquiry, it might be communicated to the political authority at Ajmere.

4. The intimations conveyed in the preceding extracts of evidence, have been followed out by Lieutenant-Colonel Ovals, with the address and activity which he has shewn throughout the inquiry; and the result has been, the collecting a mass of information, which, though not equal, either in magnitude or importance, to that respecting the Goa intrigue, is yet sufficient, in both respects, to fix the most serious criminality on the Raja of Sattara. I will give, in the sequel, the substance of the evidence alluded to; but I think it necessary, in the first place, to exhibit a short and clear view of its purport and effect. It may be ranged under three heads; the first two relating to the oral, and the third to the documentary evidence: and the description of the two former will, in fact, amount to a brief history of the whole intrigue.

5. The first division of the oral evidence relates to communications carried on by the Raja of Sattara with the Bhonsleh, or ex-Raja of Nagpore, through the medium of Elojee Mohiteh, or rather of messengers passing between Elojee Mohiteh and the ex-Raja.

6. Elojee Mohiteh is the brother of Dinkur Row Mohiteh, an officer high in the service, favour, and confidence of the Sattara Raja. Elojee Mohiteh is also the brother-in-law of the Bhonsleh, the latter having married his sister, and is proved to have been in correspondence with that person for several years past. It would seem that this correspondence has not been purely complimentary, but has related to some family disputes among the Mohitehs respecting property, and that, at the request of Elojee, the Bhonsleh has interceded on his behalf, both with his brother Dinkur Row, his mother, and also with the Raja of Sattara.

7. Thus far, there is no ground for casting any particular blame or suspicion on the Raja; excepting that the great reliance which Elojee seems to have placed on the mediation of the Bhonsleh with his Highness, is hardly explicable, considering that the Bhonsleh had no particular connection with the Raja, and was a state prisoner for life, except on the supposition that there

were

SATTARA
PAPERS.Minute
by the Governor
24 May 1838.

were peculiar circumstances, which gave that mediation a weight beyond what it would naturally have carried. That there were such circumstances, and what they were, appears from the evidence. The Raja availed himself of the interchange of messages between Elojee and the Bhonsleh, to call on the latter to embark in the schemes of hostility against the British power in which his Highness was engaged. In what way this was to be done is not explained. It is to be recollected, however, that the Bhonsleh was, and is, in the custody of a Native prince, whose own fidelity has not always been very secure. Escape might not be beyond his reach, if a fit bait could be found to reconcile him to the risks of the attempt; and supposing the Mahrattas engaged in a general conflict for the recovery of their former power, it cannot be doubted that the re-appearance of the Bhonsleh on the scene where he and his ancestors had formerly borne sway, would tend to aid their cause and to embarrass their opponents.

8. I will now state, in their order and with their dates, as nearly as can be ascertained, the several instances in which communications passed between the Raja and ex-Raja, through the channel of messengers sent from and to Elojee Mohiteh, and also such intimations as the evidence supplies of the nature of these communications.

9. About January 1832 Elojee, Dinkur Row, and their mother, having received certain letters from the Bhonsleh by the hands of one Seoram, and these letters having been shown to the Raja, his Highness desired Elojee to send his own servant with Seoram on his return to Joudpore, in order to ascertain whether the Bhonsleh had really written these letters. Elojee accordingly, at this time, sent his servant, Kedaree Maina, together with Seoram. There is no evidence that Kedaree carried, on this occasion, any message from the Raja to the ex-ruler of Nagpore.

10. About January 1833 Kedaree returned, and with him a servant of the ex-Raja's, called Bhudoo or Bhudia, who brought from the ex-Raja letters for the Raja, for the Senaputtee, for Dinkur Row Mohiteh, for Elojee Mohiteh, and for their mother, respectively. These letters, however, of which more will be said hereafter, contained nothing treasonable. In that which was addressed to the Senaputtee, the complimentary title of " Sahib " having been omitted, the Senaputtee did not choose to return an answer.

11. About August 1833, Bhudia left Sattara on his return to Joudpore, and was accompanied by Wittoo Pateykur, a servant of Elojee. On this occasion the Raja, as Elojee states, personally sent by Bhudia a message to the ex-Raja, desiring him to make preparations to join him in a war against the English.

12. About August 1834, Wittoo Pateykur returned to Sattara, accompanied by a domestic of the ex-Raja's, entitled by the witnesses the Borneykur. This person delivered to the Raja a sealed letter from his master, touching the shares of the property in dispute between the Mohitehs. In it was enclosed a small note, in the handwriting of the ex-Raja himself, which is said by Elojee to have dissuaded the Raja from going to war.

13. About November 1835, Elojee again dispatched to Joudpore the two domestics, Wittoo and Kedaree, accompanied by a Carcoon named Krushna Rao Digumber. The latter was charged with a verbal message from the Raja to the Bhonsleh, stating that, until the appointed time, two years, or two years and a half, still remained, and desiring the Bhonsleh to collect troops, which would also be done on the part of the Raja. Wittoo and Kedaree remained at Joudpore three or four months, and were admitted to the presence of the Bhonsleh. The Carcoon appears to have taken service with that person, for he remained with him after the two others departed.

14. In July-August 1836, Wittoo and Kedaree returned to Sattara, bringing with them a messenger from the ex-Raja named Bhikoo. They brought letters also; and, among others, one for the Raja. Elojee says, that all the three messengers were introduced into the Raja's presence; but Wittoo and

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Governor,
24 May 1838.

Kedaree both say, that Bhikoo was not of the party. The letters were delivered; and Elojee says, that the letter for the Raja contained, as in the former instance, a note in the handwriting of the ex-Raja, in which he again warned the Raja against the warlike schemes to which he was surrendering himself, and stated, that he himself had meditated schemes of the same nature, and had communicated with many chiefs and rajas, but found none that would support him.

15. Kedaree says, that the ex-Raja had given him a verbal message to deliver to the Raja, and that he delivered it accordingly. This message, as he states its purport, was exactly to the same effect as the note of which Elojee speaks. Elojee also very distinctly states, that Kedaree delivered such a message; but there is some little confusion in his account of it; for he would seem to refer this fact of the verbal message to the first return of Kedaree from Joudpore, which was about January 1833, and he says that, in Kedaree's second return, no verbal message was delivered. It is however singular, that the message he puts into Kedaree's mouth evidently could not have been delivered on the first occasion, but only on the second. It purports to be an answer to the message which the Raja sent "by Bhudia." Now, the first visit which Bhudia paid to Sattara was in company with Kedaree, when the latter was returning the first time from Joudpore. It was after this, as four witnesses tell us, that Bhudia went from Sattara to Joudpore; and, of course, whatever message he took to the Bhonsleh, no answer could have been sent to it by the mouth of Kedaree, until the return of the latter from his second visit to that place.

16. At the same time with the letters Bhikoo brought, as presents from the ex-Raja, four pairs of Hindoostanee shoes for the three Mohiteh brothers and their nephew; also two buttees, or turbans, of a half-breadth woven, for the latter; and two pairs of shoes for the family of the Mareeks, of whom something will be said presently. It is stated by Appajee Jhadow, a servant of Elojee, that presents of shoes were also brought for the Raja and his brother.

17. It was about a month after the arrival of Wittoo, Kedaree, and Bhikoo, at Sattara, that Govind Row Dewan was seized and conveyed to Poona. In consequence of the alarm occasioned by this event, Elojee burned all the letters in his possession which he had received from the Bhonsleh, and also cutting the shoes and turbans in pieces, threw the fragments at night into a well. He states, that he did this by desire of the Raja, who said to him, "I will make your mother give your property to you, but destroy all the letters."

18. Under the influence of the same alarm, Bhikoo was concealed for eight days in the village of Gaway near Sattara, and was afterwards, by desire, as Elojee says, of the Raja, sent away to Joudpore, having first been presented with a turban and twenty rupees. Appajee Jhadow states, that on the same occasion Dinkur Row Mohiteh, in his presence, swore the two domestics, Wittoo and Kedaree, on the waters of the Krushna and Bellbhunder, that they would be silent respecting the matter of Joudpore.

19. Such were the communications of the Raja with the ex-Raja, through the medium of Elojee Mohiteh. I now come to a second division of the oral evidence relating to similar communications through a different channel.

20. Some time in 1834, the Raja is stated to have expressed to Abba Sahib Rajey Mareek, a wish to know, through some independent channel, whether the statements made by Elojee or his servants, as to the communications held with Joudpore, were true or otherwise. Abba Sahib Mareek is the eldest son of Bhanjee Mareek of Sattara. The Brahmin Antajee, examined by the Sattara Commission, I think, spoke of him as related to the Raja. I do not see this stated in the evidence before us; but it abundantly appears that he was high in the confidence of his Highness. This person, it will be recollected, was proved by others, and admitted by himself, to have been present at one of the interviews between Govind Row Dewan and the Soobadars

Soobadars of the 23d regiment. On receiving this intimation from the Raja, Abba Mareek sent his own servant Wittoo Rajamia (a distinct person, it is to be observed, from the Wittoo before mentioned) to Joudpore, to ascertain from the ex-Raja personally the fact required. This Wittoo states, that he saw the ex-Raja, received from him satisfactory assurances as to the truth of Elojee, besides some money to defray his expenses, and returned to Sattara in, March 1835, accompanied by Hurry, a person in the service of the Bhonsleh.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Governor
24 May 1838

21. The Mareek on this occasion introduced Hurry to the Raja in an upper chamber of the palace, late in the evening. Hurry then delivered a letter from his master, which is said to have been only complimentary, and which, after having been opened and read, was, at the Raja's desire, burned in the flame of the candle. It being intended that Hurry should return to Joudpore immediately, the Raja charged him with a verbal message to the Bhonsleh. It was to this effect: "The Roos (Russians) are coming by way of Roum (Constantinople), and if Appa Sabib (the Bhonsleh) has any interest with the Romewalla (the Turks) let him exert it, to procure from the Romewalla a free passage; for which purpose he may also mention our name."

22. The departure of Hurry having been delayed for two or three months by illness, he was, on the eve of it, again introduced to the Raja, who repeated his message for the Bhonsleh nearly in the same words as before; adding, as Hurry was in the act of quitting the apartment, "Tell Madhowjee not to write me any letter." Next day Hurry received from the Raja, through Dinkur Row, one hundred rupees for his expenses.

23. Hurry was accompanied back from Joudpore by two persons on the part of Abba Mareek, Purshotum a Carcoon, and Hybuttee a slave, and also by Babajee Myhput, a friend of Purshotum. The Mareek gave them funds for the journey, and mounted Hurry and Purshotum on tuttoos. On this occasion they carried with them, for the Bhonsleh, a sword concealed in a musical instrument, called a *becna*. This sword, it seems, had formerly been in the armoury of Chundrapoor, which belonged to the Rajas of Nagpore, and having been taken thence by pillage in the war, was bought by Abba Mareek, or rather by his father, Bhanjee Mareek. The Bhonsleh having heard of this sword through some of Elojee's people was desirous of possessing it; and Abba Mareek, having first consulted the Raja, who said that it should be sent to the Bhonsleh, sent it accordingly.

24. Another, and a very singular circumstance connected with this mission should be stated. Govind Row Dewan privately desired the Carcoon Purshotum, on his departure, to procure from the Bhonsleh an advance of twenty or twenty-five lacs of rupees, stating, that it was to enable the Goa troops to capture Nagpore and replace the Bhonsleh on his lost gadec.

25. The evidence taken by Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans does not say whether or not the message thus sent by the Dewan was sent by him on his own part, or as the mouth-piece of his master, the Raja of Sattara; but, from the evidence taken by Mr. Hutt at Ahmednugger, it would appear that, whoever delivered the message, the Raja was its real author. Nothing, in fact, is more evident, as I shall hereafter more fully remark, than that such a message, if it went, proceeded from his Highness.

26. Purshotum and his party reached Joudpore, paid a visit to the ex-Raja, and afterwards sent him the sword. They afterwards took up their quarters within the precincts of a temple on the verge of which the ex-Raja resided, remained there three months, during which they visited frequently and were fed at his expense. Purshotum was daily admitted to secret conferences with the ex-Raja; but what passed at those he has not particularly disclosed. He states, however, the answer given by the Bhonsleh to the messages of the Sattara Raja and Govind Row Dewan. To the former he replied, that the Romewalla and Rooswalla (Turks and Russians) were now friends; to the latter, that he had no means of raising two lacs of rupees, but he would try if

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Governor,
24 May 1838.

if he could effect it by the aid of the Raja of Joudpore. Whether this was spoken sincerely or evasively I do not know, but should be apt to suspect the latter. "I will dismiss you to-day; I will do so to-morrow:" so, observes Purshotum, he was in the habit of saying.

27. They at length quitted Joudpore in June-July, with the exception of Hurry, who remained with the ex-Raja. Purshotum and his two companions having received from the Bhonsleh presents of turbans and clothes, also eighty or a hundred rupees for their expenses, and a mare, proceeded to the encampment of Scindia at Gwalior. The Agra Government, who have caused some inquiries to be made at Joudpore, state that the mare was a present to the Raja of Sattara. It is remarkable, that out of five witnesses examined by Colonel Ovens, who mention the animal as having been given by the Bhonsleh, not one states for whom the gift was intended. My conjecture would be, that this was left in a sort of obscurity, the present being, perhaps, nominally made to the Raja, but the purpose being that his Highness should transfer it to the person who had presented the ex-Raja with the sword.

28. Purshotum and his party were accompanied to Scindia's camp by two persons in the service of the ex-Raja, and were charged with letters to different persons in the camp. The incidents of the journey are stated by the party with considerable minuteness, but they do not explain the object or contents of the letters to the Court, with which they were charged. For any thing that they state, these were only complimentary addresses, or related to attempts making by the ex-Raja to obtain from the Supreme Government some relaxation of the terms of his captivity; but I cannot help agreeing with Colonel Ovens, that this part of the case is, as yet, involved in a good deal of mystery.

29. At Gwalior exaggerated or distorted rumours reached them of the seizure of Govind Row. It would appear that they understood the Raja himself to have been placed in custody; but afterwards, in their way from the camp, or even before they left it, as one witness states, they learned who was the person really apprehended. It is said that, alarmed at this intelligence, they returned to Sattara in the disguise of Byrajees, and that Purshotum concealed himself in the village of Savay, and the Brahmin went to his own village of Nuney. The parties themselves say nothing about their having been disguised or of their having ever tried to conceal themselves; but they admit that the Brahmin went to Nuney, and Purshotum to Savay, where the latter states that he had some rent to collect on the part of Abba Mareek.

30. The above is the substance of what the evidence tells us of the communications with the Bhonsleh through Abba Mareek; and all that I shall further remark in this place is, that the visit of Purshotum to Joudpore fell in with that of Wittoo Kedaree and Krishnarao, when deputed by Elojee Mohitch, to the same place. The party of Purshotum arrived there a few days later than the other, and departed some weeks earlier. At this point, therefore, the two lines of communication coincide; and as the general fact of these two visits having taken place, and of both parties having remained some two or three months at Joudpore, is attested by three out of the four persons who composed the party of Purshotum, and by two out of the three who constituted that of Wittoo and Kedaree, who have been examined, besides the two principals, Abba Mareek and Elojee, who speak from the information of their servants, and besides also other witnesses, who speak to circumstances connected with one or other of the two missions, that fact stands on a basis of evidence not to be shaken.

31. The third, or documentary, division of the evidence relating to this case is of no great extent, nor, except collaterally, of remarkable importance. It consists of four letters from the ex-Raja of Nagpore to the Raja and other persons at Sattara, my remarks on which I will for the present defer. I now proceed to abstract the evidence in the case, as nearly as possible in the order in which it was taken by Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens; and, after the narrative which

which I have given, I should hope that the abstract will be followed without any confusion or difficulty.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Governme
24 May 1838.

32. In consequence of the statement of Ballajee Punt Natoo, as stated in the 3d paragraph of this minute, and of other information conveyed to Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans, it was thought proper to suggest to the Agra Government the expediency of making some inquiries at Joudpore. With this view they were, on the 19th December 1836, furnished with the information first above-mentioned; and on the 5th January 1837, they were advised that a Carcoon, named Purshotum, who had come to Sattara from Moodhojee Bhonsleh, had returned with a sword which had formerly belonged to the ex-Raja, and which had been in the possession of Bhanjee Mareek since the war of Nagpore. They were also informed that another Carcoon, named Raojee, supposed to have been deputed by the Raja of Sattara, was believed to be then at Nagpore with Moodhojee Bhonsleh.

33. On the receipt of the above communications inquiries were instituted by the Government of Agra, and the result was communicated to us in Mr. Officiating Secretary Scott's letter of the 8th April 1837. It enclosed a statement, dated the 27th February 1837, from the news-writer stationed at Joudpore to this effect, that " Raojee's proper name was Dewan Kishen Rao, a highly respectable man, who had come from Sattara about a year before, and resided in the fort as the agent and vakeel of Appa Sahib (the Bhonsleh); that in the month of Assar last Purshotum had arrived from Sattara with a sword, some pieces of cloth, and some letters, said to have been given by the Raja of that place, with whom he had had an interview through the interest of Appa Sahib's brother-in-law; that his expenses had been paid by Appa Sahib, who had charged him likewise with a bay mare to the Raja. If (as is justly observed by Mr. Scott) it can be ascertained that the mare alluded to has been sent, and that Appa Sahib has a brother-in-law in Sattara, the information may not be incorrect." We have already seen that Elojee Mohitch is related, as above, to the ex-Raja, and that Purshotum was charged with a mare sent as a present from the Bhonsleh. The information, therefore, elicited at Joudpore corroborates that obtained from Ballajee Punt Natoo; and were it not for the positive injunctions imposed on us by the Government of India, I should be much disposed to transmit the additional evidence since obtained at Sattara, to the Government of Agra, in order that further inquiries might be instituted at Joudpore.

34. On the 13th June 1837 Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans was instructed to endeavour to trace out Purshotum, and to ascertain if the sword, clothes, and letters had been sent to Joudpore, and whether a mare had been sent, in return, to the Raja of Sattara. In reply, on the 3d July, the Acting Resident stated it to be reported, that, about eighteen months before, a Purdessee, whose name was then unknown, had come to Sattara from Joudpore on the part of Appa Sahib, and that he brought a letter to the Raja; that he remained at Sattara four months, residing with the Mareeks, and was then sent back with Purshotum and two servants in charge of a sword, which had belonged to the ex-Raja of Nagpore, and which was concealed in a *been*, or musical instrument. These persons, it was said, had proceeded to Joudpore, and having delivered the sword went to Scindia's camp, and there hearing of the seizure of Govind Row Dewan, returned in disguise as Gosaynes with a mare and tattoo. Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans therefore recommended that Bhanjee Mareek, his two sons, Abba Mareek, and Appa Mareek Purshotum, and the two servants who went with him to Joudpore, should be seized; but, before he could receive our answer, he reported that, having learned that Purshotum was about to leave Sattara, he had, in anticipation of our sanction, secured all the persons named, except one of the servants.

35. On the 22d July their examinations were forwarded, and from the manner in which their evidence was obtained, not as a free-will offering to the cause of truth but from the force of circumstances beyond their control, coupled with the fact, that if any bias existed, it would lean towards the Raja, with whom the leading parties were connected, and who had the amplest

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Governor,
24 May 1838.

means of influencing them all, I conceive this testimony to be entitled to great credit.

36. Krustnaje Chintamon Agasce states : “ A Purdessee, who had come to Sattara from Joudpore with Purshotum Punt, a Carcoon of the Mareeks, Babajee Mhyepunt Brahmin, and a Sepoy, were sent by Abba Mareek to Joudpore ; they went under the pretext of visiting Purshotum’s brother at Baroda. This was in December, or January 1835-36. In November or December 1836 they returned disguised as Byragees, and Purshotum remained concealed two or three months at Savay. A sword was taken, for the purpose of being given to Appa Sahib.”

37. Babjee Mypunt Row states : “ Purshotum asked me to go with him to Baroda, and I agreed : Hybuttee Sew, and a Purdessee named Hurree, who had come from Joudpore, went with us. Purshotum had a *beena*. On our arrival Hurry Purdessee went to Appa Sahib, and Purshotum daily visited him, and I went occasionally, but was not present during the conferences and secret consultations between Purshotum and Appa Sahib. Two or three days after our arrival a sword was taken out and sent to Appa Sahib. The Carbarees of Appa Sahib are Amrut Row and Krishna Row. From Joudpore we went to Scindia’s camp, and Appa Sahib gave us one hundred rupees and a mare. On our return we were robbed, and the papers and packets which Appa Sahib gave us were lost.” The witness gives a particular account of the ex-Raja’s appearance. He further says, “ When we were at Joudpore, Krishna Rao Raojee, Kedaree Mameca, and Wittoo Pateykur, belonging to Elojee Mohitch, were at that place, having arrived before us. We heard of Govind Row’s seizure while we were in the Gwalior camp.”

38. Hybuttee Palkur, the Sepoy, states : “ I have been a slave for twenty years in the Mareek family. About twenty-one months ago Hurry Purdessee arrived at Sattara from Joudpore on the part of Appa Sahib, and when he returned I was directed to accompany Purshotum and Babjee. We had a *beena* containing a sword, which was given to Appa Sahib on our arrival. We remained four months, Appa Sahib providing for our expenses. On dismissing us he gave pugrees and shelas and money. Hurry remained at Joudpore, and always lives with Appa Sahib. We proceeded to Gwalior, taking a mare which Appa Sahib had given. On the way back we were robbed. We had no letters or papers. Purshotum, when at Joudpore, used constantly to visit Appa Sahib. I saw the three persons of Elojee Mohitch, alluded to by the last witness, while at Joudpore.”

39. Abba Mareek states : “ About two years ago Hurry came from Joudpore and resided with my family : he said he came from Appa Sahib. I introduced him to the Raja of Sattara, and Hurry said that Appa Sahib was well, and that negotiations were going on at Calcutta, and that an arrangement would soon be effected. Hurry, falling sick, remained two or three months, and when about to return he was again introduced to the Raja, who sent a message, saying, ‘ You (Appa Sahib Bhonsleh) and we are equally afflicted or oppressed : our attention is towards you, and your attention should be towards us.’ Hurry saw a sword, which I had got from the plunder of the armoury of Chundrapoor during the war : he said it belonged to Appa Sahib, and it would please him if I sent it. It was sent concealed in a *beena*. Purshotum Carcoon and Hybuttee accompanied Hurry to Joudpore, and returned in a year. Purshotum informed me that he had a message from Appa Sahib to the Raja, and that he had given him money for his expenses and a mare. The message related to Appa Sahib’s negotiations at Calcutta, and he communicated it to the Raja. When Hurry first met the Raja, he informed him Appa Sahib’s attention was directed towards him. On the second occasion the Raja gave Hurry one hundred rupees for expenses, and said, ‘ Deliver our message to Appa Sahib ; our attention has already been towards him, his should be towards us. In two or three years every thing will be as desired. By the mouth of Elojee Mohitch’s “ ‘ people,

“ ‘people, who come to him, all matters are made known to him.’ Dinkur Row and deponent were present when the Raja thus spoke.”

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Governor:
24 May 1838.

40. “For nine years,” the witness said, “communications with Appa Sahib have been going on through Elojee’s people, and the Raja directed me to send a man to ascertain whether they really went. On this I sent my man, Wittoo Begania, to Joudpore, who met Appa Sahib, and came back to Sattara, accompanied by Hurry. From Wittoo I learned that Elojee’s people did proceed to Joudpore. *Hurry brought a letter from Appa Sahib to the Maharaj, which was delivered in my presence by Hurry. Dinkur Row was present, and the Raja read it.* Its contents were, ‘By directing our attention day and night towards the master’s feet we subsist: when the feet will be seen, that day will be auspicious.’ Neither the Raja’s name, nor that of Appa Sahib were written in the letter, but it was written ‘in the service.’” With respect to the second, the witness says: “Appa Sahib had learned of the sword being in my possession. *I consulted the Maharaj, who said it should be sent.* The *beena* was made in the Government Store Khana by a carpenter named Kevulram, under the orders of Govind Row Dewan. Purshotum, on his return, said that Kedaree and Wittoo, Elojee’s people, were at Joudpore. I introduced Purshotum before his departure to Govind Row, who told him to tell Appa Sahib, that *twenty or twenty-five lacs of rupees would be of use in the Goa plot, and the business would be successful.* Appa Sahib sent word, in reply, that *he had not so much money; and that, if he had, he himself would have made an effort.*”

41. The witness further says: “The Maharaj said to Hurry, ‘The Roos (Russians) will come by way of Roum, therefore, if there be an acquaintance between Appa Sahib and the Romewalla, he should send to the latter to permit the Rooswalla to pass with troops; and, for that purpose, mention also our name to the Romewalla.’ I heard this, being near. Appa Sahib, when told of this, replied, ‘An alliance has been formed between the Rooswalla and Romewalla: they are now on terms of friendship, therefore the Maharaj may do just as he likes.’ Purshotum told me thus, and I informed the Maharaj. Hurry was first introduced to the Raja at nine o’clock at night; and Dinkur Row was present. The letter Hurry brought was burned before us by the Raja’s orders. Towards the end of the meeting the Senaputtee and a Brahmin came in. The second interview also occurred at night, and the day after Dinkur Row gave me one hundred rupees for Hurry’s expenses. The Raja told Hurry to request Appa Sahib not to write any letters to him. Dinkur Row was present at the second interview.”

42. Purshotum Anunt Gosavee states:—“In the beginning of 1835-36, Appa Sahib (Mareck) informed me, that Govind Row intended to send me to Joudpore. Afterwards Govind Row told me to go and tell Appa Sahib (Bhonsleh) to send twenty-five or thirty lacs to Sattara, so that a negotiation might be made for the arrangement of his raj, and that, if he sent the money, he should depute some one in his confidence. Govind Row cautioned me not to mention this message to any one. I set out with Hurry, a servant of the Bhonsleh, Hybuttee and Babjee Despandy. Govind Row said to me, ‘I am going to give a *beena*, in which there is a sword, take it with you.’ Next day, as I heard, he sent the *beena* to the Mah-recks. Abba Marceek also said there was a sword in the *beena*. Afterwards we went to Joudpore, and sent the *beena* to Appa Sahib. The second or third day after our arrival, I delivered Govind Row’s message to Appa Sahib, who said he had not the money, but that after he was re-established some means might be found out. We remained at Joudpore three months, Appa Sahib supplying provisions: we daily visited him.” Deponent then describes Appa Sahib’s Carbarees, and where he resided. He says:—“We left for Scindia’s camp with letters from Appa Sahib, but the persons to whom they were addressed would not receive them. On our way back to Sattara we were plundered. When we reached Sattara in November or December 1836, Govind Row was a prisoner in cantonments.”

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Governor,
24 May 1838.

43. The witness further says :—“ When Govind Row gave me the message “ about the twenty-five lacs, he informed me the money was required to “ obtain the troops of the Gomantucwala, to take Nagpore, and re-establish “ him on his raj. Appa Sahib said, he had neither the money nor credit; but “ a few days after said, he would make an attempt to obtain it from Maun “ Sing of Joudpore, to which I objected. Kedaree and Wittoo arrived at “ Joudpore eight days before we did. I saw them there: a Carkoon of “ Elojee’s, named Krushna Rao Digumber, was also at Joudpore. Hurry “ informed me that the Maharaj had sent a message to Appa Sahib, to the “ effect that the Rooswalla were trying to come here with troops, but that the “ Romewalla refused them a passage through their dominions, and therefore “ that, if he (Appa Sahib) had any combination with the Romewalla, he must “ manage to obtain a passage for the Rooswalla, whose forces would then come “ and the business would be accomplished. Hurry delivered this message, “ but not in my presence; Appa Sahib, however, alluded to it, and observed, “ that the Raja of Sattara might have got his information from some Parsees, “ of Bombay, but that the Rooswalla and Romewalla had formed an alliance “ and were on friendly terms, and that whatever the Maharaj might have to “ do he might do. I informed Abba Mareek to this effect on my return to “ Sattara. Appa Sahib (Bhonsleh) gave two letters; one to Govind Row, “ merely complimentary, the other to Abba Mareek, jocular, and alluding “ to their former acquaintance at Nagpore. Of both these we were robbed “ on the journey.”

44. Wittoo, son of Sukhojee Bogania, in substance states :—“ About three “ years ago, in Bhadrupud (August-September) my master Abba Sahib “ Mareek, said to me, ‘ Go to Joudpore, and ask Appa Sahib Bhonsleh, whe- “ ther or not people from Elojee Mohitch come to him, and tell him you “ have been directed to ascertain this, and return.’ I set off, reached Joud- “ pore after the Dewallee. As I had no letter, I could not have an interview “ with Appa Sahib for fifteen days. Afterwards, I delivered the message to “ him. He answered, ‘ Elojee’s people always come.’ He gave me six “ rupees for expenses, and sent back with me his man Hurry, giving him “ nine rupees and a letter. I had inquired beforehand of Appa Sahib’s people, “ and heard that Elojee’s people were in the habit of coming and going. “ Afterwards Hurry and I set off, and arrived at Sattara by the end of “ Fatgoon (February-March) before the Parwa (new year’s day of Shalwasi) “ two and a quarter years ago. I communicated what I had heard to my “ master. Appa Sahib gave me two spangled turbans for my master’s use.” Deponent describes the Bhonsleh’s appearance, dress, and residence; and states, that a Brahmin, named Amrut Rao, was his Dewan.

45. The above evidence relates to the communications that form the second head of the historic sketch with which I prefaced the abstract, and, I conceive, completely establishes the facts which I there stated. This evidence was, for the most part, obtained by Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens, before the evidence relating to the series of communications by means of Elojee, which commenced earlier in the order of time. It will, indeed, have been observed, that the communications through Abba sprung out of a wish which the Raja entertained, to know whether those through Elojee were truly represented to him. The practice of employing, in cases of moment and secrecy, one set of agents to test the fidelity of another, is, as I shall hereafter more fully remark, quite familiar to the policy of the Native rulers of India. I will now proceed to the evidence of the communications through Elojee, merely observing further, with respect to the whole case, that if we had the means of knowing the various communications that have passed between the ex-Raja of Nagpore and the Government of India, I think it not improbable that a good deal of light would be thrown on some parts of the present case which are now obscure, and that the general truth of the case, as it stands in evidence, would thereby be confirmed.

46. The following is the substance of the evidence of Appajee Jhadow, the first witness who speaks of the intercourse carried on through the medium of

SATTARA
PAPERS.Minute
by the Governme
24 May 1838

Elojee Mohitech. "He has been in Elojee's service for five years. About five years since a Jassood, named Seoram, came to Sattara from Appa Sahib Bhonsleh. He was first taken by Elojee to the Senaputtee's house, and from thence to the Raja's palace, where a private conference was held. Two months after this a domestic, named Kedaree, in Elojee's service, was sent with Seoram to Joudpore. This was about four years since. He returned with a slave boy of Appa Sahib's, named Bhundoo, who met the Raja of Sattara, and was sent back to Joudpore with Wittoo Pateykur, another servant of Elojee. Wittoo was sent back by Appa Sahib with a person called Borneykur (this was about two years ago) and Wittoo was introduced to the Maharaj. About a year since, a Bralmin, together with Wittoo and Kedaree, were sent to Joudpore with letters from the Maharaj. Wittoo and Kedaree returned from Krishna, bringing ten or eleven pair of shoes, two of which were for the Raja and his brother and the rest for the Mohitech family. They returned one month before Govind Row was seized. Afterwards Krishna was concealed for two months in the house of Dhondoo Katway, at Goway. I also heard from servants, *that the shoes and some letters were then burned. Dinkur Row swore Wittoo and Kedaree on the waters of the Krishna and the Bel Bhundar, not to mention any where the circumstances regarding Joudpore. This oath was taken in my presence, after Govind Row Dewan had been removed to Poona.*"

47. The above witness, it will be observed, gives to the person who accompanied Wittoo and Kedaree from Joudpore to Sattara the last time, the name of Krishna. He describes the man so particularly, that he must have felt certain about the individual; but Wittoo, Kedaree, Abba Mareek, and last, but not least, Dhondoo Katoo, the person in whose house that individual was concealed, call him Bhikoo. It also appears, that he was concealed only six or eight days, instead of two months, as Appajee states. These discrepancies, however, do not seem to me material; and the difference of names may, perhaps, amount to nothing, it being common with the natives to bear several names.

48. On the above information from Abbajee, Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans sent persons to bring direct to him the servants Kedaree and Wittoo Pateykur, but found that they were not forthcoming. He was then obliged to apply to the Raja, and after a delay of several days they were produced. Here, therefore, the opportunity of tampering with the witnesses was afforded, if to any one, to the Raja and his party.

49. Wittoo Pateykur states: "I have for seven or eight years served Elojee Mohitech as a khidmutgar. About four years ago, Kedaree Mania and I were sent to deliver a letter to Appa Sahib Bhonsleh, who gave a letter in return, which we delivered to Elojee at Sattara. About eighteen months since (that is from August 1837) we were again sent to Joudpore, to deliver a letter from Elojee to Appa Sahib. Raojee Digumber accompanied us; and seven or eight days after our arrival, Abba Mareek's Carcoon Purshotum, with Huba, a servant, and Babjee Brahmin, arrived at Joudpore, and gave a *beena* to Appa Sahib. When we returned, Appa Sahib sent Bhikoo Hurkaru with us to Sattara. A month after this, Govind Row was seized, when Bhikoo was concealed for eight days in the house of Dhondoo Kateea, and then sent away to Joudpore."

50. "When we first went to Joudpore, Elojee sent messages to Appa Sahib regarding family matters. When we returned after our second visit, Elojee, Kedaree, and myself, went to the palace and met the Maharaj, and the letter was delivered to him by Elojee. The Raja asked after Appa Sahib, and opened and read the letter. On each of our visits to Joudpore, Appa Sahib gave us two packets."

51. This witness at first stated, that on the occasion of his return from Joudpore the first time, he did not go to the palace; but, on being further asked, he admitted that he had said this falsely, and that he had then visited

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Governor,
24 May 1898.

the Maharaj and seen the Bhonsleh's letter delivered. In conclusion, he recapitulated in substance as follows:—

- 1st. "Seoram came from Joudpore, and Kedaree Mania accompanied him back thither."
- 2d. "Kedaree returned to Sattara, and Bhudoo came with him from Joudpore."
- 3d. "Bhudoo went back. I accompanied him, delivered Elojee's letter to Appa Sahib, and remained at Joudpore two months."
- 4th. "I returned to Sattara, and Appa Sahib sent the Borneykur with me. I went to the palace with Elojee, and gave him the packets from Appa Sahib, and he gave them to the Maharaj."
- 5th. "Kedaree, the Carcoon, Raojee, and I, went to Joudpore."
- 6th. "Kedaree returned to Sattara with Bhikoo."

52. Kedaree Mameea. "I have been khidmutgar to Elojee Mohiteh for seven years. About five years since, I and Wittoo Pateykur were sent to Joudpore with a letter to Appa Sahib, which we delivered. After a month Appa Sahib gave a reply, and we returned to Sattara, *via* Baroda, Broach, and Poona, and gave the letter to Elojee. On a second occasion, Elojee sent me and Wittoo with a letter to Appa Sahib, and in company with Raojee Carcoon we went to Joudpore and delivered it. After our arrival there, Abba Mareck's Carcoon, Purshotum, with Babjee Brahmin and Huba, servant, and a Hurkaru of Appa Sahib, came to Joudpore from Sattara. They remained four months, when Appa Sahib sent his own hurkaru with Purshotum, and they went to Scindia's camp. A month after this Appa Sahib dismissed us, and gave us some shoes, two turbans, and a letter, which were given to Elojee. Bhikoo was sent with us. A month after our return Govind Row was seized, *on which Bhikoo was concealed eight days in the house of Dhondee Katia, of Govey, and then sent back to Joudpore.*

53. "When we first went to Joudpore, Elojee sent a message about a family dispute, and Appa Sahib sent one in reply, telling him to be easy, as he had written to the Maharaj. On the second occasion, in reply to a similar message, Appa Sahib sent word that he had written to the Maharaj, and that by speaking to the Sahib, he himself would soon come to Sattara, and having had an interview with the Maharaj, would afterwards proceed to Nagpore."

54. On a subsequent examination, the witness says: "At the time of leaving Joudpore after the first visit, Appa Sahib told us to inform the Maharaj that he understood the message sent by Bhundia, but the Maharaj should not act so: it must be some one who has stirred the Maharaj up, but he should listen to this. For fifteen or sixteen years I have had experience in the matter, by going amongst Rajas and Rajwaras (princes and chiefs), therefore this should not be done. The Maharaj is master, my humble advice is thus. After this, if the Sirkar does it, it will be the Sirkar's will. I have also commenced a negotiation with Calcutta for my own arrangement, which will be effected about the Dussera or Dewalee, and I shall reside wherever the Sahibs consent; but I will come to Sattara, and visit the Maharaj's feet. This message I delivered to the Maharaj: Elojee was present, but no fourth person."

55. "On our returning from the second visit to Joudpore, the letter of Appa Sahib was delivered to the Maharaj in my presence." At first the deponent denied this, at the instigation, as he says, of Elojee, who once or twice directed that the Maharaj's name should not be mentioned, or that any letter had been given to the Maharaj; therefore he made a false statement. In conclusion, the witness recapitulates, with little variation, the various journeyings of the agents to and fro between Joudpore and Sattara, as detailed by the last witness Wittoo; adding, that they delivered a message to the Maharaj, after their second return from Joudpore, very similar to the one above-mentioned.

56. Dhoondée Kattia, a camelman for six years in Elojee's service, states:—"I have heard of Kedaree and Wittoo being sent to Joudpore, and their returning with Bhikoo Hurkaru. A month after this Govind Row was seized, *when Bhikoo was concealed in my house at Goway for eight days, and then sent back to Joudpore.* When Abba Mareek was seized, Elojee sent off Wittoo and Kedaree for Nagpore, but they returned to Goway and I brought them to the Sahib."

Minute
by the Governr
24 May 1836

57. At this stage of the inquiry Elojee Mohiteh was himself summoned, and the importance of this witness leads me to give a pretty full abstract of his evidence.

58. "Six years ago," the witness says, "Appa Sahib (the Bhonsleh) sent me by Bhudea a letter about our respective welfare, and also desiring some betel-nuts and cardamoms to be sent to him. I wrote an answer regarding my welfare, and after keeping Bhudea a month or two, I sent him back with a scer of cardamoms. Afterwards, a dispute arising in my house between the brothers, I sent Kedaree Mania and Wittoo Pateykur to Appa Sahib, now about four years ago, with a letter, in which I begged him to intercede with the Maharaj in my favour. Appa Sahib sent two letters in reply; one to the Raja, which I delivered, and one to myself: he also wrote to my mother and to Dinkur Row. Afterwards, my mother leaguering with Dinkur Row against me, removed to the Raja's palace with the family gold, jewels, and clothes; therefore, in the beginning of 1836, I again sent Wittoo and Kedaree to Joudpore with letters to Appa Sahib. They returned with replies, and a domestic of Appa Sahib, named Bhikoo. They brought a letter to me, enclosing one to the Maharaj, which I delivered to him, Dinkur Row alone being present in a private place. This was in August 1836. The letter stated, that I ought to obtain my property, referred to negotiations in progress at Calcutta regarding Appa Sahib's own affairs, and observed, that the Governor General was coming to Ajmere, that he (Appa Sahib) would soon return to his native place, and that afterwards he would have an interview with the Maharaj by suitable means.

59. "Afterwards Govind Row was seized, in August or September 1838. An alarm prevailed; and the Maharaj told me to destroy all letters received from Joudpore, from first to last, and some shoes and turbans received from Appa Sahib of Bhikoo. The letters were burned, and I cut the shoes in pieces and threw them into the well of Narrain Row. The Maharaj promised to make my mother give up the property, and observed, 'Do you entirely destroy all the letters.' Bhikoo, after Govind Row's seizure, was concealed six days in the house of Dhundec Katia, by directions, and was then told to return to Joudpore.

60. "Lately, when Abba Mareek was seized, I sent, by the Maharaj's directions, Wittoo and Kedaree to Nagpore, with a letter to my son ante-dated fifteen days. They set out, but were attacked with fever and brought back a few days since. I went to the Maharaj privately and said, 'Let Appa Sahib's letter, which I delivered, be given back, then I will go and say to the Sahib it has not been delivered.' The Raja replied, that it was not at hand. Three days after I sent a message, to the same effect, to Dinkur Row, and received for answer 'You are all day telling stories like a woman, and asking for the letter. What is this? the letter has not remained with us.' Dinkur Row said the Raja was angry."

61. On a subsequent day the witness deposes:—"Bhudea was sent here by Appa Sahib to inquire about the death of my younger brother. The Maharaj directed me to bring the Hurkaru, and I therefore introduced him. The Maharaj asked after Moodhoojee, and Bhudea informed him that negotiations were going on at Calcutta, and that, when completed, Appa Sahib would proceed to Nagpore. The Maharaj again directed me to bring Bhudea to him when he was to depart for Joudpore. After two months I took Bhudea to the Raja, who directed him to deliver the following message to Appa Sahib. 'Thence armies are to come here: when they come, you

"(Appa

SATTARA
PAPERS.Minute
by the Governor,
24 May 1838.

“ ‘ (Appa Sahib Bhonsleh) should come with them. At the time of coming, “ ‘ collecting some troops come here.’ This message was delivered at night, “ ‘ between five and six years ago. When Wittoo and Kedaree returned from “ ‘ Joudpore four years ago, Appa Sahib sent a message by the latter to the “ ‘ Raja, as follows:—‘ The Maharaj sent a message by Bhudea, but the “ ‘ Maharaj should not give occasion for making such a war: it must be some “ ‘ one who may thus have stimulated the Maharaj. I have had experience “ ‘ for fifteen or sixteen years in these schemes, and have gone to Rajas and “ ‘ Rajwarras, but no one has given me any assurance; so tell him. But he “ ‘ is a master; as it may suit his will so he may do.’ Kedaree at night “ ‘ delivered this message to the Raja in my presence, as also the letter in my “ ‘ favour, which the Raja read and then burned. ”

62. “ ‘ Afterwards, when Wittoo and Kedaree went together to Joudpore, “ ‘ the Raja was not informed. Bhikoo came back with them, bringing the shoes “ ‘ and turbans, and a letter for the Maharaj. After the seizure of Govind “ ‘ Row, the Raja desired me to tear up all the letters and papers that he had “ ‘ ever received from the Bhonsleh; which was done accordingly. Again, on “ ‘ the day after the apprehension of Abba Mareek, the Raja desired me to “ ‘ send Wittoo and Kedaree to my son at Nagpore. When Wittoo and Ke- “ ‘ daree went to Joudpore, Krustna Raojee, who is related to a Carcoon of “ ‘ mine, happened to be going to Benares. I said to him, ‘ In a few days I am “ ‘ going to send two domestics to Joudpore: do you also go to Joudpore, “ ‘ and get Appa Sahib to write in my favour, on the family dispute, to the “ ‘ Maharaj, and send the letter here by those domestics, and then go on to “ ‘ Benares.’ This he promised to do, and set off. The two domestics set out “ ‘ fifteen days after, but they fell in with him on the road, and all went to “ ‘ Joudpore together.”

63. On a still subsequent day, the witness being told that his statement as to the departure of Krustna Raojee for Joudpore, did not agree with that of his domestics, deposed as follows: “ ‘ When Wittoo and Kedaree went, the “ ‘ Maharaj said, ‘ Within two years and a half, or three years, an army will “ ‘ be assembled here: the Bhonsleh also, collecting troops, should come here. “ ‘ Send this message by your Carcoon, who is going to Joudpore.’ I gave “ ‘ this message to Raojee Carcoon, and sent him and the domestics together, “ ‘ and wrote a letter, in which I referred Appa Sahib to the Carcoon for a ver- “ ‘ bal communication. Wittoo and Kedaree, on returning from Joudpore, “ ‘ brought back a letter, in which was enclosed a note to the Raja in Appa “ ‘ Sahib’s own handwriting, as follows: ‘ The message sent by the Maharaj has “ ‘ reached me. As to this, the Maharaj should not do this thing. I have wan- “ ‘ dered into many countries amongst princes and chiefs, but no one has afforded “ ‘ me a shelter, and I have tried many such risings. After this, you are master: “ ‘ your servant has written for the purpose of giving a hint. My negotiation is “ ‘ directed towards the Lord Sahib (Governor General): I also will soon come “ ‘ to meet the Raja. Afterwards, whatever place may be pointed out, there I “ ‘ shall remain.’ I went with Kedaree and Wittoo to the Maharaj, and de- “ ‘ livered this packet, which he read: the note was then burned. After which “ ‘ Dinkur Row was sent for; and the Maharaj taking him by the hand went “ ‘ into the Mahal.” The deponent adds: “ ‘ I did not at first state all these “ ‘ particulars, and gave a false account of the departure of Raojee Carcoon, “ ‘ because the Maharaj had said to me, ‘ Our name in any respect should not “ ‘ be mentioned.’ But what I now state is true.”

64. On the last day of his examination, the witness being called on to state fully the times and circumstances of these several missions, speaks distinctly: 1st. To Seoram’s arrival at Sattara about eight years ago. 2d. To his coming a second time, about six and a half years since, with letters to Dinkur Row, his mother, and himself, which were shewn to the Raja. 3d. To Kedaree’s accompanying Seoram on his return to Joudpore, on a suggestion from the Raja, to the effect stated in paragraph 9 of this minute. 4th. To Kedaree returning to Sattara with Bhudea, bringing with him five letters, the same that are referred to in the 10th paragraph of this minute. 5th. To Bhudea’s re-
turn

SATTARA
PAPERS.Minute
by the Governme
24 May 1838

turn to Joudpore with Wittoo, charged with a message to the following effect from the Raja to Appa Sahib: "Our army is to come from thence; with them, having collected troops, do you come with them. We have commenced an effort from hence: you should make preparations there and make war with the English, we will assemble troops here." 6th. To Wittoo's returning with the Borneykur, a domestic of Appa Sahib's, with a sealed letter for the Maharaj, enclosing a note, in Appa Sahib's handwriting, of the nature above described. 7th. To the Borneykur returning alone to Joudpore. 8th. To the mission of Kedaree, Wittoo, and the Carcoon Krustna Row, with a message by the latter from the Maharaj to Appa Sahib, as follows: "For how many days setting thus is the time to be spent? Half of our life is nearly gone! How many days more have we to live? Let us die acquiring fame. Whilst exerting ourselves, if we die, we go to heaven; but to sit idle is not good. A message was sent to you once or twice, but still nothing appears on your part. Now, until our appointed time, two years or two years and a half remain. Now even collect troops and come here: our armies are also to assemble from hence, therefore you also should come at that juncture?" 9th and lastly. To Wittoo and Kedaree returning to Sattara in July 1836 with Bhikoo, bringing a letter to the Raja from Appa Sahib, in his own handwriting, dissuading the Raja from his designs; and to the Raja's instructions on Govind Row's seizure, that Bhikoo should be sent away immediately.

65. Such, in a condensed form, is the evidence of Elojee Mohitch and his servants. Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans observes, respecting it, in his letter of the 7th August 1837: "The difficulty that has been experienced in extracting the truth, will be evident from the several dates of these examinations; but I have every reason to believe that the final answers, as recorded in those depositions, contain a true account of these secret communications."

66. In accordance with the above remark, I wish particularly to mention, that the force and effect of the evidence of Elojee, and of the two servants Wittoo Pateykur and Kedaree, respectively, will not be properly appreciated, unless we bear in mind that these persons, during the two or three days preceding the earliest of their examinations, had ample opportunity to concert a story; that, after the examination commenced, they had no means of communicating together or of knowing what had been deposed to by each other; that when a material contradiction appeared, Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans stated to the witness under examination, that the correctness of his account was doubted, and desired him to recollect himself, but without endeavouring to lead him, and far less to gain any particular answer by urgency or intimidation. This appears from the questions which are recorded, and from the assurance of Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans that these witnesses, in their different examinations, were simply requested to state the truth, and that no inducement was held out to them; except that if they did so, they had nothing to fear. The high character of Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans is a sufficient guarantee, that this statement exactly conveys the spirit in which the examination was conducted.

67. This being premised, I beg to refer to the examinations, as shewing that the witness Elojee, and his two servants already mentioned, *did*, to some extent, concert a story, with the view of giving to facts which were perhaps too notorious to be denied, or which they might conceive to be already known to the Acting Resident through other channels, as unsuspecting an air as possible. All three begin their evidence with the same untruth, namely, that there were but two missions sent to Appa Sahib by Elojee, and that Wittoo and Kedaree were the messengers sent on both occasions. It is quite evident, that Elojee was desirous of having it believed that these merely were the only messengers he had ever formally sent, and his reason for so desiring is plain. He wished to make it appear that the communications that had passed, through his means, with Appa Sahib, purely turned on some family disputes, and that the Bhonsleh had written to the Raja only on the same subject. It was, in each case, only by repeated examinations and slow

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Governor,
24 May 1838.

degrees, that Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans elicited the dates of the several missions and the names of the messengers; and when it is observed, that in each case, the apparently concerted story having been abandoned, if the witnesses, who had no mutual intercourse since they were first put under examination, give with trivial differences the same general statement of the several missions and messengers, and that this statement agrees with the original statement of Appajee, I cannot but look at the coincidence as very remarkable.

68. It will be seen that, in each instance, the messenger sent, whether from Sattara or Joudpore, was accompanied back by a messenger deputed from the other side. The adoption of this mode of proceeding seems to me to mark, that secrets of some importance were passing to and fro; but I notice the circumstance only with reference to the concurrence of the testimonies of the several witnesses.

69. Perhaps it may be asked, in what way, if the master and his servants had concocted a story and were desirous of suppressing the real events of the case, I account for the rather remarkable fact that each of them, before he is cross-examined at all, discloses one very suspicious circumstance, namely, that on the apprehension of Govind Row, Bhikoo, who had come as a messenger from Joudpore, was carefully concealed for six or eight days, and then sent privately away? Was this, it may be said, a part of the story agreed on? And, if so, does it not prove that they were resolved to bring suspicion on the Raja, and that their unwillingness to criminate him was only affected?

70. It is not possible, nor do I think it necessary, to solve every particular difficulty which this case, like most cases depending on multiplied testimony, may present. All that can be fairly required is, to shew that the difficulty is explicable, and therefore ought not to be made a ground for disbelief. Why the witnesses chose to volunteer the statement of Bhikoo's concealment, I can only conjecture; but there is a circumstance which so naturally accounts for their conduct, that I cannot help pointing it out. Bhikoo, it will be observed, was concealed in the house of Dhondee Katia, at Goway, a village in the neighbourhood of Sattara. Now Dhondee Katia had, as far as appears, no connection whatever with these intrigues, except from his having so harboured Bhikoo; yet he had been examined by Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans three or four days before the other three witnesses. In truth, he was examined to the very point of the concealment of Bhikoo, and disclosed both the fact and the cause of it; and though he might not choose to make this publicly known, yet as he was not kept in confinement, the circumstance of his having been examined must have been notorious, and the matter of it easily be guessed by Elojee and the other two servants. I can therefore very well believe, that they resolved, on the principle of making a virtue of necessity, to disclose what they knew to have been disclosed already.

71. In like manner, when Elojee made the statement that, on the apprehension of Govind Row, the Raja directed him to burn the letters and presents which had been received from Joudpore, I do not think that this necessarily proves either his candour or his willingness to inculpate the Raja. Elojee would scarcely be ignorant that Appajee, who was a dismissed servant of his own, and who knew of that business, had already been examined by Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans. Hopeless, therefore, of the suppression of the fact, he might think that his best plan was to state it, and might persuade himself, that the alarm which it plainly proved to have been caused in the Raja's mind by the seizure of Govind Row, would not be set down to the score of a guilty consciousness.

72. In the fourth paragraph of Mr. Secretary Macnaghten's letter, dated the 2d October last, it is observed, "The evidence relative to the alleged intercourse of the Raja of Sattara with the ex-Raja of Nagpore is, in the opinion of his Lordship in Council, in the highest degree suspicious. The alleged communication between Elojee Bapoo and the ex-Raja is admitted to have originated in some domestic concern. The evidence of that individual and his servant are full of discrepancies; and it was only after
" repeated

“ repeated cross-examinations that they were induced to implicate the Raja of Sattara as having any knowledge of the communication. It is remarkable that Elojee is represented as having been the person through whose means the intercourse between the Raja of Sattara and the ex-Raja of Nagpore was first set on foot; and yet the two witnesses, Abba Mareek and his servant Wittoo deposed, that the latter was sent to Joudpore to ask whether Elojee Bapoo sent people there.”

73. I cannot but think, that when the Governor General is aware of the whole of the evidence in this case, he will alter the view of it intimated in the above-quoted passage. With regard to the mode of examination pursued, I would, with deference, refer to the words which I have cited from Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans in the sixty-sixth paragraph of this minute. The cross-examinations of Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans were of the mildest kind. Even had they been of rougher character, however, I conceive that this would not necessarily be objectionable in the case of unwilling witnesses, and those, too, Native witnesses; and that the testimony of such witnesses should not be set aside, merely because it is obtained with difficulty, or is full of discrepancies, but, on the contrary, may be very valuable, in spite of those circumstances.

74. I have already admitted it to be probable, that Elojee and his servants, Wittoo and Kedaree, concerted their story. How far this circumstance destroys their credibility may perhaps appear from the comments which I have ventured to offer on it. I certainly should, from a mere perusal of their evidence, come to the same conclusion with that drawn by Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans, who had the advantage of examining them personally; and whose sense and penetration none can doubt; namely, that they were reluctant to disclose what they knew, so far as they had concerted their evidence, therefore it was with a view not to criminate but to benefit the Raja; but having, in fact, concerted it, the truth could not possibly be elicited from them except by dint of repeated cross-examinations. Induced, at length, by the skill of their examiner, to make a fuller discovery than they had intended; and adopting this course by degrees, the inevitable consequence was, that they repeatedly contradicted, not only each other but themselves. In the sequel, however, as I have before remarked, the coincidence of their statements is even remarkable, though such statements materially differ from those with which they set out.

75. I think it highly probable, that the intercourse between Elojee and the Bhonsleh originated in the family connexion which subsisted between them. But this does not, in the least, invalidate the supposition, that the Raja of Sattara availed himself of that intercourse, to enter into communications with the Bhonsleh of a very different kind. On the contrary, if we believe, what I consider as clearly proved in the Goa and Dharwar cases, that the Raja was eagerly looking round for allies and associates, in his wild designs of independence, nothing could be more natural than that he should take advantage of the opening which the correspondence between his confidential friends, the Mohitehs, and the Bhonsleh, afforded him, to endeavour to engage the latter in those designs. I would even go further and say, that the facility of communicating with the Bhonsleh through the channel of the Mohitehs, might lead the Raja into such a communication, which otherwise, as being with a dethroned and captive prince, he would perhaps not have taken the trouble to originate.

76. It is with reluctance that I enter so far into the reasonings on the probabilities of the case; but, where arguments of that nature, are used on one side, it is not unfitting to shew that similar arguments may be opposed to them. In this view, I cannot help repeating an observation which was made in the seventh paragraph of this minute, and which tends to shew, that the private and the political negotiations between the Bhonsleh, on the one hand, and the Sattara party on the other, were not only consistent, but that the private negotiation is made more intelligible, by the supposition of the political intrigue having been blended with it, than if considered simply by itself. The private correspondence originated in family disputes about property among the members of the Mohitch family; and it is distinctly stated, that the Raja of Sattara,

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Governor,
24 May 1838.

Sattara, the patron of the family, sided openly with Dinkur Row against Elojee. On one occasion, the Raja even permits the mother of the family, bringing with her all the family gold and jewels, to take up her residence in his own palace, with the view of depriving Elojee of what he asserted to be his rights. Under these circumstances, Elojee sent special messengers, in repeated instances, to Joudpore, to pray the intercession of the Bhonsleh, not merely with his mother and brother, but with the Raja of Sattara; and not only does Elojee attach the greatest weight to such intercession, but the intercession itself, if the witnesses are to be believed, is made in terms almost of authority. Considering the Bhonsleh merely as a prisoner for life in a foreign territory, at the distance of many hundred miles from Sattara, and as totally unconnected with the Sattara Raja, what could authorize him to interfere with a decision pronounced by the Raja, in a question between his Highness's own dependents? The manners and feelings of Hindoos are, in many respects, so peculiar, and so little to be estimated by European standards, that I will not speak positively on the subject; but it certainly would appear to me less surprising, that the Bhonsleh should have influence with the Raja, if the fact was that the Raja calculated, however absurdly, on deriving great aid from him, in the accomplishment of the ambitious projects which, with equal or greater absurdity, his Highness entertained.

77. In the letter of Mr. Macnaghten, before alluded to, it is pointed out as remarkable, that the intercourse between the Sattara Raja and the Bhonsleh should have been at first set on foot through Elojee, and yet that Wittoo Rogana should have been sent to Joudpore, to ask whether Elojee sent people to that place. Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens observes on this remark, that the practice of espionage (or, as I should rather call it, of espionage on espionage) is habitual to the Sattara durbar. "It cannot, for instance, be doubted," he says, "that Rungoba is employed by the Raja in Bombay; yet I know that others have been sent as spies over him, and with orders to report direct on his proceedings. In the Goa case, too, it will be seen that this practice was followed with regard to Nago Decorao, though there was no doubt of his being there on the part of the Raja." I cannot help adding a circumstance singularly confirmatory of the above remark. A correspondence has been handed up to Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens, as having past between the Raja and Dr. Milne, and is now before me, in which Dr. Milne, the admitted agent of the Raja, strongly protests against the practice of his Highness, in employing other agents independent of him, the Doctor.

78. The practice to which Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens alludes is, I believe, familiar to the diplomacy of India; and, were there time for the search, I have no doubt that specific instances could easily be found. In fact, it is the natural fruit of a refined system of espionage. Employing secret emissaries in works of deceit and treachery, the Asiatic politician naturally comes to dread the perfection of his own tools, and attempts to guard himself against their infidelity by causing them to check each other. It is well known, that the Emperor Aurungzebe was habitually suspicious of the agents who conducted his perfidious intrigues, even where they were his own sons; and my belief is, that every one of them was subjected to secret supervision: but unable, in the haste of the present moment, to consult authorities, I only state this as highly probable. The practice, however, is not confined to Asia. The "spied spy" * I believe to be a sufficiently common character in Europe, though, from the very nature

* The policy here described certainly seems to have been practised in Paris at the time alluded to, if we may trust the works of M. de Bourrienne and Fouché. "The Consul," says the latter, "daily received four bulletins of separate police establishments, derived from different quarters, and which he was enabled to compare together, without mentioning the reports of his privately-accredited correspondents." The reason why Bonaparte formed what he called his "Secret Police," which was different from the police managed by Fouché, is given by M. de Bourrienne. "Bonaparte had the weakness at once to fear Fouché and to think him necessary." Fouché, however, himself practised the same device. He says, "that, in order to know all Bonaparte's proceedings, he bought the private intelligence of Bonaparte's Secretary for 25,000 francs a month, and that of Josephine herself for 1,000 francs a day; and I was enabled," he adds, "reciprocally to control the information of the Secretary by that of Josephine, and that of the latter by the Secretary."

nature of his trade, he may seldom incur detection. It was said, I think, in Paris, when under Consular Government, that while the head of the police was the Consul's spy on every body else, the head of the gens d'armes was the Consul's spy on the head of the police. This may, or may not be the case; but its having been said, proves that there is nothing in the idea to shock belief.

79. Before I proceed to consider the documentary proofs in this case, I must advert to the evidence of Govind Row Dewan, as well as to that of Dinkur Row Mohiteh.* These could not well be included in the foregoing abstract, as they were not taken consecutively with the rest of the oral evidence; besides which, Govind Row was not examined by Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens at all, but by Mr. Hutt, the magistrate of Ahmednugger.

80. Govind Row Dewan, on the 11th September 1837, deposes: "I know nothing of any communication between the Raja and Appa Sahib, the ex-Raja of Nagpore, except what Mahadeek (Abba Mareek), with whom I am very intimate, told me. He said, three or four or five years ago, I recollect not which and had nearly forgotten the fact, that he had had a conversation with the Raja, and was about to send a messenger with a letter to Appa Sahib, in order to establish a friendly understanding between him and his Highness. He said, the Raja had enjoined him not to be led by his friendship for me to acquaint me with it. Mahadeek was formerly a servant of Appa Sahib. I afterwards heard that an answer had come from Appa Sahib, who wanted a sword which Mahadeek had brought away when he left his service. Mahadeek told me the matter was not to be mentioned to the Raja, lest he should take a fancy to the sword. The sword was to be put into a *beena*, but this was only for security. The letter sent with it was prepared by the joint counsel of the Raja, Dinkur Row, and Mahadeek. It contained, as far as I heard, only friendly expressions, and some answer to Appa's remark on his hope of soon returning to Nagpore. Purshotum Punt Carcoon was the bearer of the sword. He had not returned to Sattara when I was imprisoned. I know not if he was charged with a message; but it is not likely, as he was not a person of any consequence." On the 11th October the witness stated what had passed between Abba Mareek and himself respecting the sword sent to Joudpore: "We agreed that it should be sent in a *beena*. I directed Kevulram, a carpenter in the store, to make a *beena*, and it was made in the course of three or four days."

81. In answer to a question, whether Purshotum had, previously to his departure for Joudpore, an interview with Govind Row, and what passed, and who was present, and what message Govind Row gave to Purshotum for the ex-Raja, Govind Row, on the 21st November last, stated as follows: "Before Purshotum set out Abba Mareek said to me, 'The *Maharaj* has desired me to intimate to the Bhonsleh, that he has a communication from the Go-mantuwalla (the Goa authorities), that when money is paid for their expenses their troops will come; that he (the Raja) cannot provide the money; that the Bhonsleh should provide it, and the troops will come, by whose co-operation his coming to Nagpore will be effected.' Having said so, the Maharaj introduced me (the Mareek) to Raojee Kotenees of Goa, and Narrain Bhutt Chitney. The Mareek further told me, that when the Carcoon, Purshotum, went to Joudpore, the message was sent. Narrain Bhutt also told me, that as the Joudpore communication was through the medium of the Mareek, he (Narrain) had been introduced to him, and he was told of the Goa affair."

82. In order to show the bearing of the above evidence on that of Abba Mareek, Purshotum, and the two servants who accompanied the latter to Joudpore, it must be observed that Govind Row Dewan was removed from Poona to Ahmednugger, in the strictest custody, on the 5th of July 1837; that, at that

* For the evidence of Govind Row, see Nos. 1 to 8 of Appendix to Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens's letter of the 24th November 1837; for that of Dinkur Row, see No. 1 of Appendix B. to the same letter.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Governor,
24 May 1838.

that time, not one of the above-mentioned four persons had been examined by Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens, the earliest examination of any of them having taken place on the 9th of July; and that, from the close watch kept over the Dewan at Ahmednugger, it was, as I believe, quite impossible that he should have had the slightest information as to what those other four witnesses had, or had not, deposed. In comparing his evidence with theirs, this circumstance should be kept in view.

83. This being premised, I own that, to me, the coincidence between the statement of Govind Row, on the one hand, and those of Abba Mareek and Purshotum, on the other, seems very remarkable. There is, I grant, some discrepancy, as there is also between the statements of the Mareek and the Purshotum; but the discrepancy, in each case, may be accounted for, and, at the most, is not greater than may shew the want of concert. I allude particularly to the message sent to the Bhonsleh about providing twenty or twenty-five lacs of rupees for the expense of the troops promised by the Goa authorities; an incident which I regard as one of the most important in the present case.

84. Abba Mareek never mentions the name of Govind Row till his third examination, though he had before proposed to state in detail the particulars respecting the sword which was sent to the Bhonsleh, a matter with which Govind Row was much connected. In his third examination, however, he distinctly states, that before the departure of Purshotum, he (the deponent) conducted that person to the Dewan Khana, to introduce him to the Dewan; that every one else was ordered out of the room; and that he then heard Govind Row charge Purshotum to deliver to the Bhonsleh the message about the twenty or twenty-five lacs, and also say to him, "Take that *becna* and deliver it to Appa Sahib, there is a sword in it." The statement of Purshotum is exactly the same; with this difference, that he represents Appa Mareek as sitting at a distance, though within the room; and adds, that he (Purshotum) did not afterwards speak of the message to the Mareek, because Govind Row had enjoined him to secrecy. I am not sure that this amounts to more than an apparent discrepancy; but, at all events, it is not one of any moment.

85. Govind Row Dewan, who, we must always recollect, was an unwilling witness, began, as the above abstract may shew, with stating, that he knew not that Purshotum had been charged with any message to the Bhonsleh, but it was not likely, as he was not a person of any consequence. This was a preposterous argument. Purshotum is a Brahmin Carcoon, an order of persons very commonly employed by Natives of distinction in the most confidential services. On the last occasion of his being examined, however, Govind Row plainly states, that Purshotum had been charged with the important message already mentioned, and that he had also been admitted into the secrets of the Goa intrigue.

86. Here, however, occurs the discrepancy to which I have alluded. Instead of stating that he had himself charged the Carcoon with that message, he says that this was done by Abba Mareek, and that he was so informed by the Mareek subsequently. To me, this discrepancy, which may easily be accounted for, from a desire on the part of the witness to screen himself as far as possible, does not seem at all to detract from the confirmation which his statement gives to the fact of such a message, as that in question having been sent to the Bhonsleh. I do not see how the Dewan could possibly know that the Mareek and Purshotum had deposed to that fact. If it be said that he conjectured it from knowing of their having been examined, this is at once to admit that the fact was true. If, on the other hand, it be contended that the parties had concerted their story beforehand, I answer, first, that there is no evidence of any such concert; secondly, that, from the situations of the several deponents, and from the course of their examination, there is the strongest presumption that they were all unwilling witnesses; thirdly, that, if the story had been concerted, the Mareek and the Dewan would each have brought it out on his first examination, instead of then stating, as each did

SATTARA
PAPERS.Minute
by the Governor,
24 May 1838.

did, what was quite inconsistent with it, and waiting, as both did, to be examined the third or fourth time before it was elicited; fourthly and lastly, that the very discrepancy alluded to proves the want of concert in the strongest manner, the Mareek and the Dewan each having tried to throw on the other the responsibility of having commissioned Purshotum to the effect stated, which is exactly what they would be tempted to do, when both were parties or privy to an act which neither could deny, but which each was very reluctant to acknowledge.

87. I will only observe farther on this point, that Govind Row makes an addition to what the other witnesses had stated, which was not necessary. He says, that the message was sent *by desire of the Maharaj*. I note the statement as being positive; but even without reference to any such statement, none can doubt that a message of the nature alleged, if it went at all, could proceed only from the Raja. No one else could have called on the Bhonsleh to exert his credit for the provision of so large a sum as twenty lacs of rupees, or for such an object as the support of a foreign army in the Deccan. The importance, therefore, of this part of the case, in relation to the Raja of Sattara, will at once be appreciated.

88. I quit the evidence of Govind Row Dewan, and shall close my references to the oral evidence with a very short note of that of Dinkur Row Mohiteh, the brother of Elojee and the favourite of the Raja. Dinkur Row admits, that two years ago his brother Elojee Bapoo Mohiteh informed him, that he had sent two of his servants, named Kedaree and Wittoo, to Joudpore, to the ex-Raja of Nagpore; but denies all knowledge of any messenger having come to Sattara from the ex-Raja, and meeting with the Raja of Sattara and obtaining money, as deposed to by Abba Mareek. He admits, that Elojee and Abba Mareek were in constant intercourse with the Raja, and that secret consultations occurred between them day and night; and names, as present at these conferences, himself, the Senaputtee, Balla Sahib Chitnavees, Govind Row Dewan, Babajee Purarkur, Chintapunt Bhattey, Elojee Mohiteh, and Abba Mareek, most, if not all, of whose names are included among those mentioned in the petition of Girjibace, the mother of the Dewan.

89. I have referred to the evidence of Dinkur Row, not because I think it very material, but because it completes the oral evidence on the subject, and because it confirms, as far as it goes, what I have already collected from the statements of the other witnesses. I now proceed to the documentary evidence, which consists of five letters, purporting to be sent by the Bhonsleh. Of these only four are addressed to any of the parties named in the foregoing paragraphs. The fifth letter is curious, only as contributing to identify the others. With respect to the four first, they are not all, as far as I can understand them, of a treasonous import; but they conclusively show the close intercourse which the Raja and his associates carried on with the ex-Raja of Nagpore, and by remarkably confirming the statements of some of the witnesses in minute points they accredit their testimony in general.

90. Translations of three out of the four letters were transmitted to Government by Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans with his letter of the 24th November last, and the fourth with a letter of the 20th December. The first of these (No. 2 of list B.) is the most interesting; and supposing it genuine, of which I will speak presently, is altogether a singular document. It is rather a long letter, and purports to be from Moodhojee Bhonsleh, the ex-Raja of Nagpore, to the Raja of Sattara. It is full of the most lavish professions of obedience and fidelity to the Raja, and, in indignant and even violent terms, disclaims all connection with Bajee Row, the ex-Peishwa. The expressions of homage and loyalty to the Raja are precisely what might be expected from a Mahratta Chief towards one who has ever been regarded as the undoubted head of the Mahratta empire, and the representative of its illustrious founder. Colonel Briggs, speaking of the situation of the Raja of Sattara during the reign of Bajee Row, says:*

“ Though

* See Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans's letter of 6th March 1838, paragraph 7.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Governor.
24 May 1838.

" Though a close prisoner, the form of addressing petitions to the foot of his throne was preserved till the last, and a mock dignity was observed towards him, even at the very lowest ebb of his humiliation." Much more may we suppose that the Bhonsleh, himself a prisoner, would omit none of those customary observances, in addressing the same person while in a state of dignity and comparative independence.

91. This letter is dated in December, but the year is not specified. It contains no reference to the ambitious projects of the Raja, but on the contrary, blends with an allusion to Bajee Row and to "the courtesan of Scindia," which I have not the means of explaining, an exhortation to the Raja to maintain a close intercourse with the English. It refers to the high descent and fidelity of the writer. It refers also to a "humble supplication" previously sent by him in charge of one Raghopunt Dant, Carcoon of Samul Ginjaful, testifies great anxiety as to the fate of that document, and requests an answer. It mentions "an exalted promise made by the master (the Raja), when Purwutro Goojur went into the service." "The courtesan of Scindia," it says, "is zealously making a representation on the part of Bajee Row, therefore the master should keep a close intercourse with the English; for an infidel like Bajee Row is Bajee Row himself. As the religious merit of the master is powerful, the courtesan of Scindia will have no success."

92. Of the other two letters (Nos. 3 and 4, list B.), one is addressed to Elojee Mohitch, and says: "By the verbal intimation of the man who came from you in charge of letters the whole of the contents of the letters were comprehended. It was written, 'send Budhes;' thereupon he has been sent to you. The whole of the affair here will be known by his verbal communication." The third letter is almost exactly to the same purport, and is addressed to Gunga Bhageerthee, the mother of the Mohitch brothers.

93. The Acting Resident reports, that these three letters are originals, and that he believes them to have been obtained from the house of Dinkur Row Mohitch. The seal and signature on each of them have been decidedly recognized by Elojee, Abba Mareek, and Purshotum the Carcoon, as being those of the Bhonsleh; Elojee adding, that certain respectful words at the end of the letter to the Raja were usual with the Bhonsleh in addressing his Highness, and are in his own handwriting; and further, that the paper was of that country. The seal is stated by Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans to be of a very peculiar kind, so as neither to be mistaken by any person who had once seen it, nor imitated. The characters of the inscription, which are wonderfully minute and clear, are said to be cut on a diamond which the ex-Raja is said to be in the habit of wearing.

94. The original of the fourth letter was produced to Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans under a pledge of redelivering, which of course he fulfilled, a copy having first been taken which was compared with the original in his presence, and which is authenticated by the copyist and two other witnesses. A translation of this letter accompanies Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans's letter of the 20th December. It is addressed by the Bhonsleh to the Senaputtee, who is called Rajushri Ballajee Raja Bhonsleh Senaputtee Gosovee. It says: "Your letter which came on charge of Raghopunt Duttokeel Nisbut Ginjaful, has been received. I also sent two or three letters, which will have been received, but no answer even to one letter has come. This has caused great surprise. I have myself placed my reliance on you, that you are near the feet of the Shreemunt Maharaj Swamee, as if I myself were present. Now Bhudoo is dispatched from hence; by his verbal communication the whole of the matter will be known." Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans states, that the seal and motto on this letter exactly correspond with those on the letter to the Raja, and that he entertains no doubt of its genuineness. His language also implies (paragraph 5) that this, like the former letters, has been authenticated by Elojee; who, however, was not permitted to see any part of the letters except the seal and signature, for the purpose of such authentication. I may add, that the second, third, and fourth letters bear date on the same day, but without naming any year.

SATTARA
PAPERS.Minute
by the Governor,
24 May 1838.

95. It will be recollected that Elojee, on the last day of his examination,* which was on the 5th August 1837, stated, that when Bhudoo returned from Joudpore with Kedaree, he brought with him five letters from the Bhonsleh; one to the Raja, one to the Senaputtee, one to Dinkur Row, one to Mae (the mother of the Mohitehs), and one to Elojee himself. Elojee then added, the contents of the letter to the Maharaj were thus: "I am your servant, let a kind countenance be on me; from ancient times I am your servant." The letters to the Senaputtee contained complimentary expressions. As the Senaputtee was not styled Sahib he gave no answer. Now it is very singular, that three out of the four letters produced as above-mentioned mention Bhudoo as their bearer, while one of them exactly corresponds with the description given by Elojee of the letter to the Senaputtee, which he mentions; for, though it is very complimentary, *it omits to style the Senaputtee Sahib*, as will be seen from the address given above; and it implies that the Senaputtee had returned no reply to two or three former letters, which we may reasonably suppose to have been addressed with the same omission. I am not at all, therefore, surprised to learn from Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans, that we have here four out of the very five letters brought by Bhudoo; for this, even the internal evidence of the letters goes far to establish: and when we take into our account a further circumstance stated by Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans, namely, that the letters were not obtained by him through Elojee, nor had even been seen by that person, except sufficiently to recognize the seal and signature on them, I cannot but regard these letters as affording a very striking confirmation of the leading incidents of the narrative which has been elicited from the mouths of Elojee and his servants.

96. Of the genuineness, indeed, of these letters, there is a negative proof which seems to me of great force. Had they been forged out of enmity to the Raja, they would have contained direct allusion to his treasonous designs; or, even if we suppose the fabricator to have framed them on a more cautious plan, at all events they would have afforded much more numerous and direct, or elaborately indirect, supports to the facts stated by the witnesses, than can now be extracted from them. No reasonable doubt can therefore be felt as to their genuineness; and it follows, that the confirmation which they actually furnish to the case made out by the oral evidence, though limited, is unimpeachable.

97. Strongly, however, as the genuineness of these documents seems thus established, the indefatigable officer who has produced them would not rest while any further proof could be obtained; and the result is, that he has found, and laid before Government, some additional evidence of considerable value. It will be observed, that the first of the four letters in question speaks of an emissary between the parties, by the name of Raghopunt Dant, Carcoon of Ramul Ginjawul; and, in the fourth letter, the same person evidently is called Saghopunt Dant Sakul Nisbut Ginjawul. On the 3d March last Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans reported, that having accidentally learnt that this person had come to a village near Sattara, he had sent for and examined him. He proved an unwilling witness; but admitted that on one occasion he brought a packet of letters from Joudpore to Sattara; and that, on another, he was present when a packet from Sattara was delivered by a person named Purushram to Moodhojee Bhonsleh, at Joudpore. He denies all other knowledge about these letters; but very untruly, in the opinion of Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans, who considers him as deeply implicated in the intrigues under consideration.

98. What, however, is of great importance to the present inquiry, among this person's papers was found an original letter addressed by the Bhonsleh to a servant of his, named Poonjajee Sindeh. The contents of this letter are altogether unimportant, but the seals attached to it correspond exactly with those on the four letters before ascribed; all of which, moreover, are admitted by this unwilling witness, Raghopunt, to bear the genuine seals of the ex-Raja. The witness satisfactorily explains how the letter to Poonjajee came into

* See paragraphs 10 and 64 of this minute.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Governor,
24 May 1836.

into his possession although addressed to a third person. " Poonjajee Sindeh " went to Poorumpooree Gosavee, who lives at Benares, taking me with him, " in order to ask something for his expenses. He gave this note to me. It " was shewn to the Gosavee, who gave 200 rupees to Poonjajee for expenses. " The note has remained with me. It is dated the 19th March 1836."

99. From Raghopunt's description of himself, it appears that he is a religious character, in the habit of resorting to the different places of pilgrimage in India. He was in the Deccan during the war with the Peishwa, and accompanied Appa Sahib, brother of the Peishwa, to Benares. In 1828-29 he was sent to Sattara to collect pilgrims for Gya: he was introduced to the Raja, and bestowed on him *prusad*, or a blessing. Through the influence of Hurreeba Nana Mohitch, he obtained from the Raja a deed, conferring on his master the office of oopadya, or priest. He was acquainted with the Sena-puttee of Sattara, who gave him a mare and horses. He went to Joudpore in 1831-32, with one Purushram, whom he had met at Mutra. Purushram said he had brought letters from Sattara for Moodhajee Bawa. Amroota, a Brahmin, who was with the Bhonsleh, took deponent and Purushram to him, and Purushram gave the letter in deponent's presence. The same Amroota gave Purushram a sealed letter. They went to Oodeypoor together, from whence Purushram returned to Joudpore, giving into deponent's charge letters to deliver at Sattara to Hurreeba Nana Mohitch. He delivered the packet in 1831-32, or 1832-33. It was six fingers broad, round, and two fingers high. When Nana had read the letters he severely chid deponent, and said, " Here " the rules of Grant Sahib are in force, notwithstanding this, why have you " brought this letter?" Deponent replied, that Amroota and Bajec Punt had given it at Joudpore. When at Sattara he obtained a loan of 280 rupees from Chintapunt Bhattey. He met a Carcoon of Abba Mareek's at Joudpore, named Purshotum, or Pursoo. Such is the substance of this man's testimony. It is clear that no concert or collusion could have existed between him and the other witnesses who have deposed to the intercourse with Joudpore; and further, that, from his former life and history, he was a very likely character to be engaged in intrigues of this kind. The nature of the contents of the packet which he brought from Joudpore may also be inferred; for, if the communication had only related to the private affairs of the Mohitch family, no reason can be imagined why Hurreeba Nana should have scolded him, and have alluded " to the rules of Grant Sahib;" by which must, I conclude, have been intended the prohibition against intercourse with foreign states.

100. After the length to which these remarks have extended, I will sum them up in a few words.

101. Even on the most superficial view of this case, it seems to me established, by a weight of evidence not to be resisted, that for years together, a close and secret correspondence, both by letters and messengers reciprocally deputed, has been carrying on between the Raja of Sattara and Moodhojee Bhonsleh, residing as a prisoner at Joudpore, the messengers sometimes residing for weeks, or even months, at the place to which they were deputed, and, occasionally at least, having their expenses paid by the party receiving the message. The fact, too, of some sort of correspondence *by letters*, is established by evidence, independently of that which proves the correspondence carried on through messengers. That such intercourse, even supposing it to have related to indifferent objects, was a violation of the treaty of Sattara, which, on pain of forfeiture of his country, prohibits the Raja from having any connexion or correspondence with any foreign power, chief, or prince, except through the British Government, there can be no manner of doubt. The question will then arise, for what purpose did his Highness subject himself to so great a hazard? The Raja of Sattara was the favoured child of the British power. If any reason connected with caste, family, religion, or any other bond of union between the Hindoos, made him desirous of communicating with the ex-Raja of Nagpore, he had only to state his wish, and the considerations on which it was founded, to the Resident; and, so long as a correspondence was open and innocent, I am not aware that any objection would have been made.

made. The natural inference is, that the communications between the Raja and ex-Raja were such as would not bear the light, and even that they involved some designs treacherous to the British Government. I repeat on this point what I ventured to observe in my minute of the 15th August 1837, "No man would systematically have broken so capital a part of the treaty, " without some object to justify the risk he incurred."

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Governor,
5 May 1838.

102. But this conclusion is greatly strengthened by the proved conduct of the Raja on the apprehension of his minister, Govind Row Dewan. It is clearly in evidence, that instantly after that event took place, a number of letters received from the ex-Raja were burned, his presents were destroyed, and a messenger of his, actually in Sattara, was concealed for six days and then sent away privately. It is true, that the immediate agent in these measures was Elojee Mohiteh; but no reason appears why such step should be resorted to, if the letters, presents, or messenger, belonged only to a private correspondence between Elojee, and his near connexion the ex-Raja. No treaty forbade Elojee from corresponding at first hand with any chief or ex-chief related to his family. Nor could the seizure of the Dewan, a public character, inspire Elojee with any alarm in reference to the discovery of such family correspondence. The conclusion then scarcely to be resisted is, that a higher person than Elojee must have been concerned in these proceedings; and when to this strong presumption we add the positive testimony of Elojee, that the Raja commanded him to burn the letters, to destroy the presents, and to send away the messenger, I cannot but think the fact perfectly established.

103. The validity of these conclusions can, in my opinion, be contested only on the supposition that the whole of the evidence is false, and has been concerted among the witnesses: a supposition to which I have repeatedly adverted in the preceding pages, and which seems to me untenable. I see no evidence of concert, to such an extent as the supposition embraces. I think that to such an extent it was scarcely possible; as far as I can see traces of concert at all, it was in favour of the Raja, not against him; and the clear marks of unwillingness in all the principal witnesses are, to my mind, destructive of the idea of a general concert on the other side.

104. Having, then, the general conclusion thus made out, of a prohibited and a highly improper, if not an actually treasonous intercourse, held by the Raja with the ex-Raja, we are next led to take notice of such positive evidence as the case presents, with regard to the precise nature of that intercourse. Elojee states, that in two several instances, and by two several messengers, the Raja sent exhortations to the ex-Raja to join him in schemes for the subversion of the British power, and the answer to one of these messages, which answer implies the message itself, was brought by Kedaree, and by him personally delivered to the Raja; thus adding his testimony to that of Elojee, for the fact of that message having been sent. Again, Abba Mareek says, that he heard the Raja deliver to Hurry a message for the ex-Raja, in which that person was desired to aid, if he could, the march of a Russian force to invade British India. Then Purshotum, who accompanied Hurry to Joudpore, says, that he was on the road told by Hurry that he was charged with such a message for the ex-Raja, and when he arrived at Joudpore the ex-Raja told him that such a message had been delivered to him by Hurry, and charged him (Purshotum) with the answer for the Raja. Lastly, Abba Mareek and Purshotum both state, that Govind Row charged Purshotum with a message to the ex-Raja, requesting him to provide twenty or twenty-five lacs of rupees, for defraying the expenses of an army which the Goa authorities were to send against the English; while Govind Row, who does not admit his having charged Purshotum with such a message, says that Abba Mareek had himself done so, and this, as he (Mareek) declared to him, by order of the Raja. Besides which, the message is one which could proceed from the Raja alone. I here pass over the message which Elojee states himself to have sent by the Raja's order to Krushna Row; not because I disbelieve the statement, but only because it stands on the testimony of a single witness.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Governor,
24 May 1838.

105. I do not say that every part of the evidence for these three overt acts of treasonous communication is of that technically exact sort which the judicial procedure of our own country requires, or that it might not have been well to seek further elucidation of the actual nature of the intrigues in question. But the actual proof of those three acts having taken place is, in my opinion, morally conclusive; and, coupled with the clear indications of conscious criminality which mark the whole of the proved intercourse between the Raja and the Bhonsleh, fixes his Highness with a criminal infraction of the non-intercourse clause in the treaty of Sattara, and subjects him to the penalties by which that clause is guarded.

(Signed) R. GRANT.

24th May 1838.

Minute
by the Governor,
26 May 1838.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Dated 26th May 1838.

1. In continuation of my remarks on the Sattara case, I now again address the Board. I have already commented on so much of Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans's report of the 24th November and its enclosures as relates to the intrigue with Joudpore, and I had meant, on this occasion, to call the attention of my Colleagues to the rest of the report and of those documents. I am unwilling, however, to overlook the present discussion. The remaining documents referred to are, for the most part, not very conclusive, nor, as the evidence now stands, of much importance; I will, therefore, pass them over, with the exception of three, which, I think, should not be left unnoticed.

2. The two first of these are the documents entered by Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans as Nos. 6 and 7 of list C., being respectively the answers of Govind Row Dewan to certain questions proposed to him through the Judge of Ahmednugger, and the farther examination of Kooshea, the servant of the Dewan.

3. The Dewan fully confirms the evidence taken by the Sattara Commission, with regard to the attempts made on the fidelity of the two Native officers of the 23d Regiment. Govind Row states, that when he conducted the officers to the palace, he was accompanied by his servant Kooshea; who also admits that this was the case. Govind Row further names the Sepoy, who, after the interview of the officers with the Raja, was sent to conduct them out of the town. The Soobadars themselves, it will be recollected, deposed to the fact of their having been so conducted; but the name of the Sepoy did not then transpire.

4. The servant Kooshea also now confirms the fact of Abba Mareek's having entered the room, during the interview between the Soobadars and the Dewan at the house of the latter. It will be remembered, how difficult it was, in the first instance, to discover the name of a Purdesees, whom the Soobadars described as having so entered, and as having spoken of the ex-Raja of Nagpore.

5. Additional and important light, therefore, is now thrown on that very material part of the Sattara case, which may be considered as the consummation of the Raja's guilt, namely, the attempted seduction of the Native officers. With this exception, however, and with the exception also of so much of the statements of Govind Row Dewan as relates to the Joudpore intrigue, on which I have particularly commented in a previous minute, the additional evidence of the Dewan seemed to me important; and I am inclined to agree with Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans, that he was not very deeply admitted in these intrigues.

6. I now come to the most important paper which I have on this occasion to notice. It is that entered by the Acting Resident as No. 1 of List D. This document

document bears date on the 5th October 1837, and is alleged to have been sent to Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans by Appa Sahib, the brother of the Raja; nor does Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans seem to have any doubt of its authenticity.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Governor
26 May 1838.

7. The paper is vaguely written; but it contains one statement, criminary both of the alleged writer and the Raja, which deserves attention. In reference to the two agents whom it is understood that the Raja was about to depute to England, the writer says: "The Raja gave copies of the treaty and other papers to Syud Meer and Ibrahim, and instructed them thus: 'Represent first to the Court of Directors in England. There, should it not be effected according to our desires, represent to the King's durbar. There, if it should be decided that we have full powers in our own country, and that the Bombay Council should have no sovereignty over us, it is good; if not, *communicate with the Rooswalla (Russians) and adopt means for their army to come down here.*' Having said so, and having prepared a foul draft of a *yad* of stipulations to be passed to the Rooswalla, my brother put his sign-manual on it, and made me put mine. Had I not put it, he would that moment have taken my life. Out of this fear I put it; and I became fully persuaded that moment, that by such acts the Raja would not continue."

8. The alleged writer takes credit to himself for having communicated to the Sattara Commission the fact, that a letter to the above effect had been written by the Raja; and on reference to the 10th paragraph of the Report of the Commissioners, it will be seen that such a communication is referred to as having been made to them on the authority of the Raja's brother, although the Commissioners, writing at a period when the intrigue had been very partially detected, are disposed to treat the information with incredulity.

9. Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans states, that this singular document was brought to him by a confidential agent named Eshwunt Row Foujdar, with the declared object of having it transmitted to Government, and that, at the time of delivering it, the agent made verbal representations to the same effect with the contents. The Acting Resident likewise states, that Appa Sahib does not appear to have been otherwise concerned in the wild designs of the Raja, than in the instance to which he thus pleads guilty.

10. In weighing the claims of this statement to our belief, it is impossible not to observe that there are two circumstances which, taken by themselves, materially detract from its credit. First, the writer acknowledges that enmity has long existed between himself and the Raja. "Day by day," he says, "the enmity of my brother has been increasing, for he suspects me of being in combination with the British Government." Secondly, he anticipates the possibility of the Raja's dethronement, and avowedly aims at succeeding him. "If my brother," he observes, "has done any thing wrong, that it may be forgiven out of mercy, and that the raj be continued firm, is my only wish. Perhaps, in order not to continue my brother on the raj, if an arrangement be contemplated, I am an heir, and I am not concerned in any improper acts: if my brother has done any, therefore, the British Government will place me on the throne. I have this confidence."

11. With such powerful inducements to lead him to the crimination of the Raja, the statements of Appa Sahib (for I do not doubt that he is the author of the document), must be received with considerable reserve. In truth, among the numerous witnesses whose testimonies stand recorded against the Raja, Appa Sahib is the only one who speaks clearly on the side of his own interest. In the case of the rest, if any has existed, the presumption from their position and circumstances is, that it was a bias in favour of his Highness. The brother, actuated by the double motive of ill-usage to resent, and of a throne to gain, cannot be considered an impartial witness.

12. Having stated fairly the considerations which thus tend to discredit the statement of the Prince, it is my duty to point out, with equal candour, the circumstances that tell in its favour. Let it be observed, then, that the Prince freely criminales himself as well as his brother. True, he extenuates the act

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Governor,
26 May 1838.

which he confesses ; but he must have felt that his confession, even thus qualified, could not but place him in a situation of very serious hazard. The presumption, therefore, would seem to be, that some letter of the sort described by him was in existence when he wrote, and that it was *out of his own* power ; and, if so, we can hardly suppose that he would commit himself on a false allegation of its having been signed by the Raja, which allegation the production of the instrument would instantly confute.

13. If, on the other hand, we suppose that the Raja is here falsely accused, then we must hold, either that no instrument of the sort existed, and that Appa Sahib's statement is wholly false, or else that the instrument existed, but, together with the Raja's signature, had been forged by the person who refers to it. But, on either of these suppositions, why should Appa Sahib accuse *himself* of treason, as well as the Raja ? If he forged the instrument and the Raja's signature to it, why should he gratuitously add his own ? If there existed no such instrument, and the whole story is a fiction, why should it be part of the fiction, that he himself partook in the crime imputed ? He would rather have pretended that the Raja had earnestly solicited him to join in the treason, but that he had nobly resisted the solicitation.

14. The more natural supposition, therefore, I repeat, seems to me to be, that such an instrument was actually in existence, and that Appa Sahib was fearful of its being produced ; and, if this be the case, then it is difficult to believe that he would have committed himself on so bold an averment as that the Raja had signed it, unless such averment was true.

15. On balancing these opposing considerations, I incline to think that there is more to be said for the truth than the falsehood of Appa Sahib's statement. But I should not pronounce this opinion *decisively*, without farther inquiry, which, however, I am not disposed to recommend. On the contrary, though I have thought that the circumstance of our receiving such a statement, from such a quarter, was too remarkable not to be brought forward markedly to the notice of the Board, yet it seems to me that there are many objections to our giving to the statement a prominent place in the question respecting the Raja's guilt or innocence. I do not say that such a step may not eventually be necessary ; and, unless necessary, I cannot regard it as advisable. It is unseemly that the brother of the Raja should occupy a principal station among his accusers ; and the admission of him in that character, under a declared expectation, on his part, of succeeding to the gadi, which he expects the Raja to vacate, might, in the sequel of this extraordinary case, occasion us much embarrassment.

16. With these observations I shall for the present dismiss the subject.

(Signed) J.R. GRANT.

26th May 1838.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Dated 31st May 1838.

Minute
by the Governor,
31 May 1838.

1. I proposed concluding the series of minutes which I have now submitted to the Board on the Sattara case with a few remarks ; first, in recapitulation of the various intrigues which I conceive to have been proved against the Raja of Sattara : secondly, in illustration of the motives and feelings which appear to me to have influenced his Highness's conduct ; or, in other words, I shall endeavour to point out the real key of these extraordinary proceedings ; and thirdly and lastly, I shall submit my opinion as to the final disposal of the case.

2. On the first of these points I solicit attention to a report from Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans, dated 30th November last, containing a summary review of

of the whole of the evidence which, up to that date, had been obtained against the Raja.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Governor,
31 May 1838.

3. This important and protracted inquiry originated in the receipt of intelligence, in July 1836, from Colonel Lodwick, then Resident at Sattara, of attempts having been made, on the part of the Raja and Govind Row Dewan, his minister, to seduce from their allegiance two Native officers and a Havildar of the 23d Regiment of Native Infantry, then in cantonment at Sattara. A Special Commission was immediately assembled for the investigation of this serious accusation, which, after a patient and laborious inquiry, unanimously came to the conclusion,* that the charge, as far as it went, was fully proved; and in this opinion, after much and anxious deliberation, we entirely concurred. In the first instance, however, the crime of the Raja seemed inexplicable and almost unworthy of belief: for, although the Commissioners obtained some slight glimmerings of his having, contrary to treaty, maintained an intercourse with foreign states, still these were too faint for conviction; and the attempt to tamper with our troops, viewed as an isolated act, appeared so monstrously wild and extravagant, as to induce this Government to think that, unless some more distinct and intelligible act of impropriety could be brought home to the Raja, it would not be expedient to adopt extreme measures against his Highness.

4. But the state of things soon altered. The arrest and removal of Govind Row Dewan led to important results. His mother, actuated partly by affection for her son and partly by resentment on finding that he was abandoned by the Raja, almost without an effort to save him, and that he was likely to become the scapegoat for the transgressions of others far more criminal than himself, forwarded by post to this Government a petition,† representing that her son was not the only guilty person, denouncing by name the principal persons through whom the intrigues of the Raja had been conducted, and alluding, though in terms rather vague and obscure, to the object and nature of those intrigues. In the language of the Government of India,‡ this document displayed “an air of earnestness and of truth” highly favourable to the veracity of its author; and, under the instructions of that authority, Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens, who had intermediately succeeded Colonel Lodwick as Resident at Sattara, was directed to inquire into its authenticity, and to ascertain the truth or falsehood of the allegations which it contained.

5. The result has been, that a series of strange and impracticable, but at the same time of seriously formed and systematically conducted machinations against the British Government, has been brought home to the Raja, by such a mass of separate and independent testimonies as, in my judgment, neither his staunchest friends and supporters, nor the most sceptical or charitable observer, will be able to withstand. The authenticity of the petition was first established. Govind Row Dewan next confessed, and confirmed in almost every particular the evidence which had been originally elicited by the Commission, with relation to the attempted seduction of our Native officers. Abba Mareck also, one of the persons named in the petition, was then apprehended, and confessed that he had been present during one of the interviews between the Dewan and the Native officers, a fact which had been elicited by the Commissioners, although his name did not then transpire. Thus was completed the evidence of that deeply criminal act, the detection of which gave birth to the present inquiry. Still, however, it stood as a solitary act, and some explanation was required of the motives and gradations by which the Raja had been led on to such extreme delinquency.

6. The explanation was soon supplied. The long continued and extensive intrigues of the Raja with the authorities at Goa were fully developed. These were carried on clandestinely for a series of years, during a period of professed amity and confidence, and when no apparent cause of collision or animosity had arisen between the two Governments. Their object was, undoubtedly, to obtain

* *Vide* their report, dated 5th November 1836.

† Dated 13th December 1836.

‡ *Vide* Mr. Secretary Macnaghten's letter to this Government, dated 22d May 1837.

SATTARA
PAPERS.
—
Minute
by the Governor,
31 May 1838.

obtain the aid of troops from Europe, for the purpose of expelling the English from India, and of re-establishing on its ancient scale of grandeur the Mahratta empire. I have already commented at such length on the Goa case, that I will here be content with merely alluding to the combination and multitude of evidence by which it has been established; evidence consecutively and independently acquired from different sources, and exhibiting a degree and description of coincidence and consistency, which the circumstances of the case made it impossible to ascribe to concert and collusion, and which, in fact, concert and collusion would be incapable of producing.

7. Next in order, and in intimate connexion with the proceedings at Goa, must be taken the intercourse of the Raja with Moodhojee Bhonsleh, the ex-Raja of Nagpore, who has for some years past been residing at Joudpore. The existence and the guilty nature of this intercourse have, I conceive, been proved, by a combination of evidence, certainly not equal in strength and force to that obtained in the Goa case, yet sufficient to justify the conclusions I have drawn. On this case, too, I have separately offered, and will not now recapitulate my comments. There is, however, one remark which properly belongs to the present summary, and which I think material; it is this, that whatever is wanting of completeness in the Joudpore case, is fully supplied by that of Goa. The vague hopes and prospects which the Raja held out to the Bhonsleh, of an anti-British war within two or three years, at once became intelligible, though not rational, when we hear of his negotiations with Don Manoel.* Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens has justly observed that the Goa intrigue is the key to all the rest.

8. Last, I would mention, that the statement, or if it may be so called, the confession of the Raja's brother, I have elsewhere stated candidly my sentiments on this document, in which I see great marks of truth, but which I do not think it desirable to press against the Raja.

9. I have myself no doubt, that notwithstanding so much has been elicited in elucidation of the Raja's intrigues, through the indefatigable exertions of Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens, much still remains concealed and undetected. In the evidence collected by this able officer, traces may be discovered leading to the conclusion, that the treasonable communications of his Highness extended to Baroda and to Gwalior, to Soorapoor in the Nizam's dominions, to Ihumkhundy† belonging to one of the Putwurdhun family in the Southern Mahratta country, and lastly, to the country belonging to the Hubshee, situated in the immediate vicinity of Bombay. Although I concur generally with the Acting Resident in his opinion, that grounds exist for believing "that attempts were making to form combinations with the chiefs of the above-mentioned places, which may have been interrupted in consequence of the seizure of Govind Row Dewan, and the inquiry subsequently instituted at Sattara;" and that, taking all this into consideration in connexion with what has been actually substantiated in the other cases, the existence of these supposed communications becomes very probable; still I am free to admit, that they have not been absolutely proved, and consequently should not, as the case now stands, enter into that body of charges on which the Raja of Sattara is to be acquitted or condemned.

10. The delinquency brought home to the Raja consists, first, of the Goa intrigue, and next, that of Joudpore; but neither even of these, nor both together, can be considered as constituting his deepest offence. His great crime is that which was at once the effect, and in some degree the consummation of these intrigues: the attempt to seduce our troops from their fidelity. That act now stands fully explained, and appears equally without disguise and without excuse. Even when I looked on it as virtually an act of madness,

* I take this opportunity of observing, that the name of Don Manoel, which some of the witnesses give to this person, is a corruption of his Portuguese appellation, which would be Dom Manoel; the Portuguese writing the prefix *Dom*, and not *Don*, like the Spaniards.

† I beg to refer to Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens's report of the 27th July 1837, and to the 18th and 19th paragraphs of his report of the 24th November last, and to the evidence therein quoted. *Vide* paragraphs 32 and 33 of his report of the 30th November.

SATTARA
PAPERS.Minute
by the Governor:
31 May 1838.

ness, an anomaly rather than a crime, I felt no small degree of misgiving, in proposing to visit it with a mild punishment. At present, all my reserves are removed; and I feel clear that this adoption of one of the worst and wickedest of the offences which cost Bajee Row his throne and his liberty, by him whom the favour of the British Government exalted on the ruin of that Prince, must irresistibly consign him to the same fate.

11. I deem it, however, of some importance in several views, to endeavour to explain the true origin of the infatuated conduct of the Raja. Opinions were, and I believe still are, strong and high in his favour, both in this country and at home. He was believed to be a most remarkable, and an equally interesting, example of a Native Prince attached to British interests by the ties of gratitude for favours conferred and confidence in friendship expected; or, in the language of the treaty under which he reigns, he was regarded as a striking instance of the beneficial effects resulting from the establishment of a Prince, "who was to hold his territory in subordinate co-operation with the British Government, and who was to be guided in all matters by the British Agent accredited to his Court." None more cordially cherished these impressions than myself, and none can more deeply lament that a delusion so pleasing has been so completely dispelled.

12. The real key to the Raja's conduct did not escape the penetration of the Sattara Commission. In the eighth paragraph of their report the Commissioners observe: "We also learn from the best authority, that at the time the present Raja was established on the Sattara throne, both himself and his family entertained the most extravagant ideas of their own consequence, and that their expectations were proportionate, so that, for a time, the bounty they experienced was not duly appreciated. (Grant Duff's History, vol. 3, paragraph 483). Perhaps, in this passage, a key to his Highness's conduct may be found. Time may have weakened the gratitude which he may once have felt towards the British Government, for having restored him to liberty and a throne; and, forgetful of what he was and of the source from which he derived all that he now possesses, he may have been led, by family pride and a weakened intellect, to think of the much more extensive kingdom which belonged to his ancestors, and having once nourished the dangerous thought, he may have been gradually led by the designing men who now surround him, to entertain false hopes, and with this object may have commenced by assailing the fidelity of our troops."

13. This opinion of the Commissioners has been partially confirmed by our subsequent inquiries; but it is only partially. Whatever may have been the gratitude of the Raja in the first instance, yet if, even amidst the glow and excitement of his first elevation, it was not powerful enough to appreciate the favour which he had experienced, it could hardly be expected to do so afterwards. It could not be expected to become more ardent and lively in proportion as that glow and excitement had subsided, and when he began to feel the restraints and privations inseparable from a limited and dependant throne. In truth, however, it seems in the highest degree doubtful, whether the grateful sentiments imputed to his Highness ever had any existence at all.

14. Let us attend to the evidence on the subject. Even from the mouths of the witnesses who have been examined as to the different points in the inquiry, a good deal may be learned in regard to the *animus* of the Raja towards the British allies.

15. Dajeeba, Dufturdar, one of the persons named in Girjibae's petition, and filling a situation of trust and importance under the Sattara Government, states: "The report heard of is, that the Maharaj was to have the *whole* raj (dominions): instead of which, giving a limited raj, the treaty was concluded. In consequence of this there is a dissatisfaction in his mind. Bulwunt Row Chitnaves mentioned this to me in conversation."

16. Govind Row Dewan, a witness of undoubted authority, in his reply to the twelfth interrogatory put to him by the Judge of Ahmednugger, states: "I can conceive no other reason for his Highness having meditated hostili-

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Governor,
31 May 1838.

"ties against the British Government, than a desire to regain the extensive sovereignty enjoyed by Sevajee; accounts of whose feats and dominion the Chitnavees Bulwunt Row was constantly recounting to him, remarking at the same time, that he ought still to be in the enjoyment of them. I suspect him and the Senaputtee to be the principal advisers; yet his Highness does not allow himself to be often guided by others."

17. Hesity Sewram Bandery, another witness, states: "Between the Company's Government and the Maharaj Sircar friendship existed. During the last five or six years a contrary course has begun to appear on the part of the Maharaj. Upon making an inquiry as to the cause of this, it appeared that the Raja and the Chitnavees, and other mundullee, having entertained a wish that the raj (dominions) should be extended, they opened a communication with foreign parts. The Chitnavees prepared a bukkur, or a memoir, for the purpose of negotiating with the British Government: on this the seal of the Maharaj Sircar is attached and my name; Ramchunder Shastry's and Babajee Ramchunder's is attached as witnesses. In consequence of that bukkur I was fully convinced that what I used to hear was true."

18. We have, however, a far more unexceptionable witness than either of the above on this part of the case. Dr. Milne, the professed and accredited advocate of the Raja, has himself afforded the most decisive testimony in regard to the inward workings of his Highness's mind, from the day on which he was released from confinement on the field of battle by the army under General Smith, and from the period when he was seated on his throne by Mr. Elphinstone. This is contained in two letters, dated the 15th January and 10th February last, addressed by Dr. Milne to Mr. Secretary Macnaghten, and to which, as well as to Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens's comments on them contained in his letters of the 1st February, and 16th March last, I now solicit the earnest attention of the Board.

19. With the address from Dr. Milne of the 15th January is forwarded what is designated an "Historical Sketch," composed by Bulwunt Row Chitnavees, the whole scope and tendency of which is to shew, that the British Government committed a flagrant breach of faith towards the Raja in the arrangements adopted on the overthrow of the Peishwa and the conquest of the Deccan. The whole of this remarkable document is well worthy the consideration of those by whom this case must ultimately be decided; but I shall content myself with noting those parts only, which more particularly bear on the point immediately at issue.

20. In this sketch it is made to appear, that, previously to the Peishwa's downfall a secret understanding existed between the Raja and Mr. Elphinstone, that the former should be restored to the whole of the dominions possessed by his ancestors, when the Raja was released from confinement by General Smith's army. That gallant officer, at his first interview with his Highness, is made to say: "The whole of the empire will follow the Maharaj; now there is no apprehension or doubt. The throne is with the Maharaj." The defeat of the Peishwa's army is attributed to the Raja's having come over to us, and his Highness is stated to have ordered a salute to be fired in honour of our victorious army. His coming over to us is represented to have been the effect of a preconcerted arrangement with Mr. Elphinstone under a secret engagement that his Highness should obtain the empire. A Mr. Billamore is represented to have said: "This vast empire is the possession of the Maharaj;" and by this means we are told that the Raja began to receive nuzzerana* from every village according to former rule. The raising of the Raja's standard under a salute is referred to, and at an interview which afterwards followed, General Smith is made to declare, "His Highness the Maharaj will administer his empire, and we will expel Bajee Row from his residence in the country. His Highness is the owner of the empire. His Highness will go to Sattara, sit on the throne, and administer the Government. His Highness will have no apprehension of Bajee Row any more, and Bajee Row will not be permitted

* This is the usual recognition in India of sovereign power.

"mitted to enter the kingdom, nor will the empire be ever ceded to any other than his Highness the Maharaj."

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Governor
31 May 1838.

21. At his first interview with Mr. Elphinstone, the Raja is said to have observed, in reply to some complimentary expressions, "The stipulations were executed through the hand of the Chitnavees, and he has a confidential promise from you, which I hope you will abide by according to law. I have my confidence in you, and on this account I have left every one and every thing, and become confederated with you: now you should keep your promise." Mr. Elphinstone's alleged reply is vaguely given; but he is said to have remarked, that "a proclamation had been prepared;" which proclamation was, on a subsequent occasion, read to the Raja by Ballajee Punt Natoo.

22. The Raja's expectations are, however, more vividly expressed in the following communication imputed to Captain Grant Duff, the officer who was our first Resident after the establishment of the Sattara Government. "He (Captain Grant) stated, it is in the mind of Mr. Elphinstone, after the conquest of the forts of Kilfa and Kummulgur, to place the following countries under the Raja's authority; that is, from the mountain Syadry to this side of the River Neera, towards the bank of the River Bheema, and thence towards the junction of the rivers of Kristna and Bheema. We have written to the Marquis of Hastings, the Governor General of India; besides this, we will act conformably to our promise. If we were to give all the forts into your possession there would be risk, as the dispute is not yet settled; therefore we will maintain the defence of all the forts and raise the neshan (standard) of his Highness the Maharaj." To this his Highness is stated to have replied, "You speak now beyond former agreement, so that, with its recollection, write to the Governor General of India, and also tell Mr. Russell to speak thus."

23. In several passages of the "Sketch," the Raja is represented to have been made use of in conquering the Peishwa's possessions, and more especially in the capture of the fort of Wassota, in which his family were imprisoned. In regard to an address which, from the context, appears to refer to the proclamation under which the Raja was established on the throne, his Highness is represented to have objected to one article, setting forth "that he had been liberated from his confinement imposed by the Peishwa, and had been crowned;" and to have remarked, that he had been crowned for a long time, and that it was not true that he was to be reinstated on the throne, but that he himself had joined the cause of the English; and he concluded by remarking "What is this that you now state, contrary to the terms of our friendship?"

24. In the above passages the germs of the ambition which possesses this unhappy Prince seem unfolded to our view. The sentiment appears to have increased with years, and ultimately to have betrayed him into the insane projects which at length stand unmasked. I beg here to quote and to adopt the following opinions and remarks of Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens, in his despatch of the 1st of February last. This "Historical Sketch" is an important document, and fully bears out what is stated by the different witnesses, as to the idea entertained by the Raja and instilled into his Highness's mind by the Chitnavees, as to a more ample sovereignty. The plain meaning of this memoir appears to be, that a secret intrigue was carried on with the British Government, by means of the Chitnavees, both before and after our rupture with the Peishwa, having for its object the placing the whole of the empire in the hands of the Raja; that, on the faith of this, his Highness deserted the Peishwa and joined our camp; and that our engagements were afterwards violated, and only a limited sovereignty conferred upon him. That such an idea had taken possession of the Raja's mind from the beginning is pretty clear: it is alluded to by Captain Grant in the passage of his history quoted by the Commission. Difficulties also were started, even at the formation of the treaty, as alluded to by Captain Grant in his letter to Mr. Elphinstone, under date the 30th September 1819; and Colonel Briggs, in a report to Government, dated the 1st January 1827, refers to this ambitious feeling as likely to be the Raja's

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Governor,
31 May 1838.

ruin, in these remarkable and prophetic words: "He is, however, tenacious of his prerogative, and *will every day more and more resent our control.* He has been lately flattered by those around him into an erroneous estimate of his own importance, and he has already evinced a strong inclination to extend his connections beyond the limits prescribed by treaty. It will be fortunate, perhaps, for his Highness, if events afford this Government an early opportunity to give him timely warning of the danger he is incurring, or I should be very apprehensive that he may succeed in involving himself in secret communications with those who may, at some future period, provoke the resentment of Government, *when it is likely a development of a system of intrigues with his Highness may take place, which will altogether shake our confidence and may lead to his ultimate ruin.*"

25. The memoir is declared to have been "executed by the command of his Highness," and we have therefore, as Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens justly observes, an open avowal, that from the first his Highness was discontented with the limited country conferred upon him, and that disappointed ambition, inflamed by the insidious and dangerous counsels of his advisers, particularly Bulwunt Row Chitnavces, has led him to forget all that he owed to the British Government. "It ought not also to be forgotten," the Acting Resident adds, "that this charge of broken faith against the British Government, and the restoration of the sovereignty of the countries ruled by the former Peishwa, constitutes the basis of the transactions with the Goa authorities."

26. Bulwunt Row Chitnavces gives the following account of the Historical Sketch: "The bukkur (memoir) written has been sealed and witnessed as deposed to, by Kasey Seoram. The Maharaj related the circumstances which occurred before and after he came into the camp of the British Government. He caused a rough draft to be made that was copied out fair, and the Maharaj had it sealed and witnessed, and our case stands thus: to speak this to the Sahib it was made. It is with the Maharaj."—(Vide his examination, enclosure No. 4 of Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens's report to Government of the 6th September 1837.)

27. In his letter to Mr. Macnaghten of the 10th February, Dr. Milne proceeds yet farther. He presumes to reflect on the conduct of the British Authorities in India, at the period of our first interference in the affairs of the Poona state, for having aided in restoring the authority of the late Peishwa, which, he says, "led them to commit unknowingly a great act of injustice to the supreme head of the Mahratta empire, by acknowledging the independence of the Peishwa, but who, in fact, was only the minister of the Raja of Sattara, whose authority he never before presumed to question, until he conceived the idea of independence from being supported by the British." This strenuous advocate then refers to the Historical Sketch, to which I have already alluded, for the desire of Mr. Elphinstone "to afford every reparation" for the injury which the Raja had sustained. I have no words to express my astonishment at the utter disregard (for it scarcely could be ignorance) which this allegation bespeaks of some of the most notorious facts in Indian history. The merest tyro cannot require to be informed, that long antecedently to our connexion with the Poona state, the Peishwas had become *de facto*, if not *de jure*, the chief lords of the Government, retaining in close custody, as political puppets, the descendants of Sevajee, and that it was precisely from this condition that the present Raja of Sattara was released, after the defeat of the Peishwa on the field of Ashtee. For some very able comments on Dr. Milne's gratuitous assumptions, I beg to refer to the sixth, seventh, eighth, and ninth paragraphs of Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens's letter of the 6th March.

28. The enclosure to Dr. Milne's letter, however, is deserving of a brief remark. This he designates as "an important state document," and it is styled, "a detailed account of the sovereignty of the Government of Sattara, and of the comments of the ruling power since the time of his Highness the late Sevajee Maharaj Chutraputtee, extracted and selected, for the satisfaction of the British Government, under the authority of the present Raja of

"of Sattara." The Acting Resident has divided this document into five heads:

**SATTARA
PAPERS.**

Minute
by the Govern:
31 May 1838.

- 1st. An account of former plots against the Raja.
- 2d. The confinement of his people.
- 3d. The concessions now required to be made to him.
- 4th. The authority formerly possessed by his Highness and by his ancestors.
- 5th. The pledge made by Mr. Elphinstone to restore to his Highness the Government of his ancestors.

29. It is with the two last of these points that I have principally to deal. In regard to the first it may be observed, that the fact of false accusations having at various times been preferred against the Raja, cannot affect the merits of the present case. They inculcate caution and discretion in the consideration of questions of this nature, and the necessity of sifting and well weighing the evidence by which they are supported. It is however remarkable, that among the alleged instances of false accusation adduced by the Raja, his intrigues with the Goa authorities are included, and these have now been incontestably established.

30. With regard to the second point* it may be observed, that no unnecessary severity has been exercised in the cases referred to, and that every indulgence has been shewn to the persons in question, compatible with their safe custody, and with due security against their being tampered with. I have elsewhere alluded to the great difficulties under which these inquiries have been prosecuted, and which must continue in full force so long as the authority of the Raja remains, and his ample resources can be applied to the purposes of corruption. In the 24th paragraph of his report of the 30th November, Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens observes: "It must, I think, be evident, that an inquiry carried on, as this has been, in a foreign country, against the Sovereign of that country himself, vested in his own person with despotic powers, as, also with unbounded means at his disposal, and unfettered by law or in any other manner in the exercise of his authority, must have very formidable obstacles to contend against, and full allowances must be made in weighing any evidence obtained under such circumstances."

31. In regard to the third point, I shall only refer to the sixteenth paragraph of Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens's report of the 6th of March last, for a list of the demands which the Raja does not hesitate to make on the British Government. Most of these would be inadmissible at any time; but at a period when, by repeated, even treasonous breaches of treaty on the part of his Highness, the alliance between the two states must be regarded as virtually dissolved, they seem truly preposterous. I can, however, very well understand the tactics of his Highness's advocates, in thus endeavouring to assume the position of an injured and complaining party.

32. In elucidation of the fourth and fifth points, I beg to make some quotations from the document itself. It commences with an assertion which every one must know to be false, namely, that, in consequence of a treaty with the Raja, the English Government were enabled to obtain a complete victory. It is matter of history, that the Raja was proclaimed on the 11th February 1818, and that no treaty was concluded with him until September 1819. Next succeeds a series of documents, the first being dated as far back as the 4th April 1775, apparently to prove, what no one disputes, that former Peishwas exercised the powers they had usurped in the name and authority of the representative of Sevajee. The Raja then states (for it must be borne in mind that the document purports to proceed from himself), that after the British Government had formed an alliance with Bajee Row, an agent was deputed to the Governor General at Delhi, to solicit that the management of the country might be made over to the Raja, and was informed that the request could not be acceded to until the existing treaty had been violated, when his

* On this head the 20th and 21st paragraphs of the Acting Resident's letter of the 6th March last may be referred to.

**SATTARA
PAPERS.**

Minute
by the Governor,
31 May 1838.

his Highness must rest assured that, "he being the possessor of the dominion, "it should revert to him." The Raja then refers to Mr. Elphinstone's alleged breach of faith. That distinguished personage, on whose honour, public and private, even calumny has never yet ventured to breathe a reflection, is represented to have been satisfied "of the supreme power of his Highness over the "chieftain, as the Peishwa pretended to be independent of his Highness," and to have promised that, in case the Peishwa violated the treaty or levied war, "then his Highness the Maharaj should be confident of his word, which "he had just pledged, for the restoration of his Government," requesting that this promise might not transpire. In conclusion, the Raja states, that the Peishwa, after his defeat at Kirkee and retreat from Poona, requested his (the Raja's) sanction to commence hostilities against the English, "but that, in "consequence of Mr. Elphinstone's pledge, the Raja rejected all these overtures, as well as others of a similar nature which he received from the Raja "of Nagpore." The anachronism in this statement is sufficient evidence of its falsity.

33. I do not deem it requisite to notice the calumnious attack on the character and proceedings of this Government, and on those of its officers, contained in Dr. Milne's addresses to Mr. Macnaghten of the 15th of January and 10th of February, or Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens's remarks in refutation of them. I shall hereafter have an opportunity of commenting on the unjustifiable proceedings of this gentleman, when I submit to the Board his correspondence with the Raja, which has lately been obtained by the Acting Resident. I think it right, however, to call attention to the character assigned to Bulwunt Row Chitnavces, the author of the Historical Sketch, in the 14th, 15th, and 16th paragraphs of Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens's letter of the 1st of February, and to the 17th and 18th paragraphs of the same letter, for a refutation of the attack made by the ex-President of the Medical Board on the character of Ballajee Punt Natoo.

34. Neither do I conceive it necessary to offer any reply to the accusation of breach of faith contained in the bukkur, or Historical Sketch, and repeated in the important state document prepared by the Raja against the British Government generally, and against Mr. Elphinstone in particular, otherwise I should refer to the statement of Ballajee Punt Natoo, himself an actor in many of the important events and transactions that preceded and followed the downfall of the Peishwa in 1817-18, which forms an accompaniment to Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens's letter of the 1st February.* We are, indeed, much indebted to Dr. Milne, for having thus unintentionally aided the cause of truth in this instance, and for having thrown so much additional light on a case which, at first, was so mysterious and inexplicable. The chief use of the documents he has furnished (and, in this point of view, they are invaluable), is, that they completely disclose what were the real feelings of the Raja towards the British Government, at the very period when we imagined that we were conferring upon him the most important benefits. Having now ascertained, beyond a doubt, that discontent and dissatisfaction then predominated in the mind of his Highness, we can easily conceive how this feeling has gradually ripened into the most rancorous hostility, and under the conspiring influence of extravagant, if not superstitious impressions of his own dignity and destinies, has led him, step by step, into the unhappy predicament in which he is now placed.

35. I now proceed to the third and last head into which I have divided this minute, or to submit my opinion respecting the manner in which the Sattara case should be finally disposed of.

36. In the first instance, I beg to refer to my minute dated the 30th January 1837, as containing my sentiments regarding how the case should have been then disposed of, on the evidence which had been elicited by the Sattara commission,

* The 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, and 14th paragraphs of his letter of the 6th March contain some very sensible remarks on the actual condition of the Raja when in the hands of the Peishwa, and at the period of his re-establishment on the Sattara throne by the British Government.

commission, and which was almost exclusively confined to the attempt of the Raja on the fidelity of the Native officers of the 23d regiment of Native infantry. The sentiments met with the unanimous concurrence of the Board as it was then composed.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Govern.
31 May 1837

37. I am happy that I took the view contained in that document, because it conveys abundant proof, if any be required, that this Government possesses no wish for territorial aggrandizement, nor feels any inclination to deal harshly with the Raja. On the contrary, I conceive that, if any objection can be urged against the measures there proposed, it must refer to their leniency, rather than to their severity. We certainly thought that some penalties should be imposed on the Raja for the offence of which we conceived him guilty, but we desired to temper justice with mercy, which was perhaps carried to an extreme.

38. In the 43d paragraph of that minute, however, I expressed myself doubtful of finding my views supported by the Government of India. That doubt was in the sequel verified, in a letter from Mr. Secretary Macnaghten, dated 22d May 1837. The sentiments of the Government of India were thus expressed :—"The Governor General in Council cannot agree with the Bombay Government, that it is expedient to adopt a middle course in this case. The Report of the Commissioners convicts the Raja of an attempt to corrupt the fidelity of our troops, and of plotting the subversion of our rule, and if he is guilty, he is guilty of an offence with which there should be no compromise; nor can his Lordship in Council admit the principle, that in a case like the present, the British Government should, from fear of imputations on the purity of its motives, refrain from the plain course of resuming territories and power, when those who have been entrusted with them are using them for its destruction. In such a case, his Lordship in Council is of opinion that the treason should recoil upon those who contrived it, and should be made, at the same time, a source of additional strength to the British Government." The Government of India then proceeded to state, that their first impression was, in the event of the Raja's being finally pronounced guilty, and on the supposition that his nearest connexion and the greater part of his Court were innocent and unconscious of his supposed designs, to set him aside, and put his brother, or other best qualified member of his family, in his stead, taking care to reduce his military force, and to provide for the support of a body of horse under British officers from the Sattara resources. As, however, the papers which we had immediately forwarded had shaken their confidence in the supposed innocence of the Raja's brother, and of others who had exercised an influence in the Sattara Government, if on inquiry it should appear that the whole of the Raja's family were implicated in treasonable designs, then his Lordship in Council informed us, that he would not hesitate to recommend that they be altogether set aside, and the territories annexed to the British territory.

39. I have no doubt that, by many, the views propounded in Mr. Macnaghten's letter of the 22d May last, will be considered sound and statesman-like, even on the supposition that the case stood exactly in the position which it occupied when I wrote my minute of the 30th January 1837. Possibly I was too indulgent, too anxious to spare the guilty, too fearful of misconstruction. No offence can be more unpardonable in a Native ally, than that of attempting to seduce our troops; for, if once we are disarmed, our empire is gone.

40. In the minute quoted, however, I expressly reserved myself for another sort of case than that which I was then considering, and, indeed, for the case which has actually arisen. In the 3d paragraph I observed: "In delivering my sentiments, therefore, on the present subject, I must beg that they may be considered dependant on the result of our recent reference to the Government of Agra; for, if it shall hereafter be established that the Raja has held with the ex-Raja of Nagpore communications of a hostile and treacherous nature against the British Government, a case for exemplary punishment

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Governor,
31 May 1838.

" will have arisen, and one in which our motives for inflicting it cannot reasonably be misconstrued."

41. In my minute, again, of the 15th August 1837, adverting to the final disposal of the case, I observed as follows: " If the case still stood, in point of evidence, where it did when we recommended to the Government of India a moderate and middle course in the punishment of the Raja, I should have ventured to defend that advice, notwithstanding the dissent of the Government of India; and I firmly believe, that the Home Authorities, had they been consulted, would have acceded to our opinion, subject to the question, whether any, the least, attempt to seduce our Native troops from their loyalty ought not to be considered an unpardonable offence. Our case against the Raja was not at that time a very strong one. The evidence, though satisfactory to us, was such as might be questioned without any obstinate incredulity. The offence, though great, might be regarded as the fruit of some casual and momentary aberration, aided perhaps by some mismanagement on the part of the British Government or its agents. At present, the matter exhibits a greatly altered appearance. Such a mass of proof has been obtained, and there is every reason to expect still further additions to it, as must, I think, convince the most hardened unbeliever. And in what light does the offender appear? For years, during which he has been the petted child of the Company, the object of their constant indulgence, the theme of their ardent applause, and during which he has, in fact, maintained a semblance of the utmost cordiality with the British Authorities in contact with him, without even the pretext of a grievance, he has been cherishing the most treasonous projects against those who raised him from a prison to a throne."

42. When, however, I recorded these remarks, Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans's reports, commencing with that dated the 11th November last, had not reached us; and I need scarcely say, how greatly my opinions have been strengthened and confirmed, by the mass of additional proofs against the Raja which accompanied these reports. Every ingredient in the case which, in January 1837, induced me to advise a middle course, has now disappeared or become neutralized. The attempted seduction of our troops, that offence " with which there should be no compromise," appears in its most aggravated form; and I very decidedly, though with great pain, subscribe to the opinion of the Government of India, that " the treason should revert upon those who contrived it, and should be made, at the same time, a source of additional strength to the British Government."

43. I am aware that the Government of India have since expressed altered views of the case, and have thought that we were pressing our inquiries to a length tedious, profitless, and fraught with inconvenience. On this point I will not dwell. I believe that we may have injured the case, though with the best intentions, by presenting to that Government the evidence exactly as it reached our own hands (I mean in a piecemeal and disjointed state), and I feel no doubt that, when his Lordship in Council shall have studied the entire case with all the additional evidence now attached to it, and in the digested form to which it has been reduced, he will agree with us, that it is one to which the principles above cited from the letter of the 22d May 1837, principles which I do not understand him to have abandoned for a moment, precisely and emphatically apply.

44. There is, however, one gloss attempted to be put on the Raja's conduct, by persons who nevertheless admit the facts proved against him, or many of them, which this may be the best place to notice. They allege that, whatever his Highness may have done, he never had any serious intention of breaking with his British friends. Having few objects to interest or amuse him, he got up a sort of intrigue with Goa, which he did not regard as leading to any real results, but which served to divert some of his leisure hours, and gave him consequence in the eyes of his attendants.

45. This explanation may, perhaps, satisfy those who are content with a superficial view of the case. I will not take the trouble to study the facts in evidence,

evidence, but I see no traces of it in the papers. A number of persons were employed in the missions which, during a period of ten years, the Raja deputed to Goa and other places; but not one of these seems to have suspected that he was a mere puppet, set in motion for the diversion of his master. Nearly forty witnesses, I think, have been examined, most of whom were more or less concerned in the missions alluded to; but all these, whether they confess or deny their connection with the intrigue, treat it as a proceeding of the most serious kind. The Raja himself, and his advocate, Dr. Milne, never for a moment intimate that we are mistaking jest for earnest, and magnifying an amusement into a crime. They assert the charge to be a foul calumny, engendered by revenge and malice, and sustained by falsehood and perjury.

SATTARA
PAPER

Minute
by the Govt
31 May 18

46. What marks of seriousness, short of actual rebellion, could an intrigue exhibit, which are not to be found in the proceedings under consideration? Was it for the conduct of a dull and expensive joke that the Swamee of Sunkeshwur recommended Nago Deorao to the service of his friend, the Raja? Was it in the character of actors in a foolish farce that the whole of the *mundullee* were salaried by the Raja, at high rates, for several years together? Was it in the promotion of a court-amusement that his Highness spent 36,000 rupees, which are entered in the bankers' books as expended on the Goa affair, most part of the sum being credited under a false name? When Don Manoel deputed his agent Herculano to Sattara, was it merely for the purpose of pleasing his Highness with a dramatic representation? When Nago Deorao, on his death-bed, exhorted the mundullee to be zealous and active, and predicted, in that case, the success of their cause, was this dying scene a part of the interlude, or was it in reward for his services as a jester, that he solemnly implored the Raja to befriend his children and relations? Above all, was it a part of the divertisement, when the Raja received into his palace, at night, and in disguise, two officers of the British army, and made his acknowledgments to them for their intended perfidy to their colours, and enjoined them, on a certain concerted signal from his Highness, to throw off their allegiance and join him in open rebellion? This, it will at least be allowed, was carrying the jest somewhat far. To play at treason is a dangerous sport; and I am much inclined to believe, that a state which consents to laugh at such jests as these, will quickly be in a situation to justify the utmost derision of its enemies.

47. The argument which I have, as I trust, answered, is based on the idea, that the plots of the Raja were too contemptible to be treated otherwise than with ridicule. There is another, which makes a somewhat different use of the same materials. We are told that the Raja, at the worst, is an enemy too insignificant to be punished; that the very schemes which this case discloses prove him incapable of giving us real trouble, and that we should, therefore, seize the occasion of treating him with a magnanimity which can involve us in no danger. I must, with all deference, dissent from every proposition which this reason includes or implies. The argument is, that his Highness is powerless to injure us, and therefore should be forgiven for the attempt. I beg leave to deny both the truth of the premises and the justness of the conclusion.

48. I deny, in the first place, the justness of the conclusion, even supposing the premises admissible. The object of punishment, I need not say, is not to inflict expiatory pain on the offender, but to deter others from committing a like offence. That end, however, will be totally sacrificed, if the malignant enmity with which the Ruler of Sattara has, for a long course of years, been plotting our destruction, is passed over with a slight reprimand, merely because his power to do harm is not commensurate with his will. Situated as we are in India, we can scarcely look for a hearty and disinterested friendship from those Native allies and tributaries whom our Government at once protects, restricts, and overshadows. From none of them, indeed, had we so clear a right to expect it as from the Sattara Raja, and the value of such an expectation is now fully exposed. Our best hope is in the feelings of prudence and self-interest which the position and circumstances of those princes must

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
of the Governor,
31 May 1838.

dictate to them ; but these supports we throw away, if we read to them such an inverted lesson as would be afforded by our forgiveness of the Sattara Raja, after the criminal conduct of which he has been convicted. Any one of them, henceforth, who is instigated by fancied wrongs, or ambitious passion, to conspire against us, will surely yield to the temptation, assuring himself that his machinations, if dexterous and able, will be rewarded by success, and if weak and abortive, will be passed over with impunity.

49. But I deny, farther, the truth of the premises from which this consequence is deduced. Daily we hear asserted the precariousness, at the best, of our Indian empire. It is represented as a government of the sword ; an edifice built on a shifting sand ; a fort constructed on the bed of a mine. If there be any meaning at all in such representations, they must imply that, under contingencies which can neither be foreseen nor averted, our government in this country may be subjected to the most imminent hazards, by causes in themselves quite trivial and insignificant. The removal of a few grains of dust may cause the building to collapse ; the fall of a single spark may blow the fortress into the air. We should be acting a highly weak and absurd part, if a sense of our insecurity were to induce us to listen with eager avidity to every tale of alarm which malice or jealousy may fabricate ; but where plots, however impracticable, are actually proved to have been formed, we are not at liberty to neglect them, either in the view of defence or of example. Let it be recollected, that our safety entirely depends, under Providence, on our own caution, firmness, and promptitude.

50. The Raja of Sattara is feeble as a statesman, and his talents for intrigue may be contemptible ; yet a conjecture is possible, in which his power to injure us would be great. Let us suppose, for example, that one of his criminal speculations were realized, and that an army of continental Europeans were on our northern frontier. It might, in that case, make the most serious difference, whether the compact territory of Sattara, occupying as it does the heart of the Deccan, and traversed by some of the principal lines of communication between different portions of our territories, was in our own hands, or in those of a secret but determined enemy. I pause not to consider for what good purpose such an arrangement of things is to be maintained, or to what extent the object originally aimed at by the creation of this subordinate power, which was that of conciliating the Mahratta race, is likely to be answered, when the very instrument of conciliation is our bitter foe ; but I may be allowed to ask, whether, as rulers of India, our means are so great, our expenses so light, and our task so easy, that we can afford gratuitously to add to our difficulties, by entrusting a considerable portion of the resources, on which we ought to be able to rely, to the keeping of confessed traitors, and to comfort ourselves with the reflection that their treachery is neutralized by their imbecility ?

51. I have considered, on general rather than on particular grounds, what should be the final disposal of this case, supposing always that the guilt of the Raja is thought to be established. For the considerations that more particularly attach to it as an individual case, I beg to refer to the Reports of Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens. I would specially mention his report of 30th November 1837, paragraphs 48-59 ; his report of the 6th March last, paragraphs 15-19 ; and finally, his report of the 17th January last, containing a condensed summary of the evidence against the Raja, prepared expressly for the purpose of being submitted to his Highness when he shall be put on his defence. Time presses so much, that I am not able either to abridge or to comment on the remarks of the Acting Resident. Perhaps this is fortunate, as I might not do justice to his views, distinguished as they are by the same sound sense and judgment, and also by the same honesty and firmness of purpose, which have throughout characterized his proceedings in the arduous and trying situation in which he has been placed.

52. I perfectly agree with Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens when he argues, that this is not a case that can be disposed of by admonition or reprimand, or by attempting to attach, or re-attach, the Raja to the British connection by measures of lenity and forgiveness. His Highness, it will be observed, exhibits

no symptoms of contrition. At one time it was believed that he meditated a confession of his fault; but from this, perhaps his most sensible course, he is said to have been directed by his Bombay advisers. Whatever may be the counsels that sway him, he has assumed the position, not of repentant guilt, but of traduced and oppressed innocence. He loudly demands redress for the suspicions and humiliations that he has undergone, and vengeance against the accusers who have caused his wrongs. Not only so, but he has seized, as I before observed, this occasion, to marshal in array what he alleges to have been the grievances originally sustained by him at our hands, and he calls for reparation and indemnity. Under these circumstances, what ground does the case present on which an amicable adjustment can be made? To talk of showing him mercy will, on his principle, be to add gross insult to grievous injury. He will say, "I have done nothing to call for lenity. I am unjustly accused, and even pronounced guilty, of crimes which never entered my imagination: make compensation to me for this unheard-of persecution. I want redress, not pardon. Declare me innocent by proclamation. Confess that I have been cruelly wronged. Cede me territory; cede me my just claims over the Jagheerdars. Deliver up to me my false and base accusers, that I may deal with them according to their deserts." Such would, undoubtedly, be the language of his Highness; and I own that, if we lay ourselves open to it, I see not how it can possibly be answered. There is but one course that we can consistently pursue, if we deny him to be innocent; it is, to deal with him as a criminal.

SATTARA PAPERS.

Minute
by the Governr
31 May 1838.

53. It will be asked, however, whether he is to be condemned without the opportunity of defending himself. The Raja has not been told of the evidence taken by Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens, and undoubtedly has a right to be heard in his own vindication. I have never meant otherwise, although I do not think that he will vindicate himself successfully. In my minute of the 15th August 1837, "I am farther strongly of opinion, that before the case is conclusively disposed of, the Raja should be made acquainted with the fresh evidence which has been elicited against him, and should be allowed the opportunity of offering defence or explanation." I repeat that opinion; not meaning that there should be merely the form or farce of a trial, to be closed by a ready-made judgment, but that the defence should be fairly heard and impartially weighed. So far as this Government should be called to decide on that defence, it would be my honest endeavour to discharge my mind of all my previous opinions on the subject, and to judge the case as if I heard it for the first time. But if it be thought that the Bombay Government is too strongly prepossessed with the guilt of the Raja to be placed in the chair of judgment over his Highness, let the Government of India constitute, in any manner which they think fittest, an impartial and competent judicature for the occasion.

54. What sort of trial it should be, is a question which may divide opinion. Some may think that it should be modelled on the practice of an ordinary court of criminal justice, sitting perhaps with open doors, and with the advantage to both the accused and accusers of being attended, if they please, by professional advisers or advocates. In such a case, Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens might very well fill the post of a prosecutor; and I doubt not that the Raja would be supported by English counsel and attorneys from Bombay. Before such a course, however, is adopted, I trust that it will be well considered. States are bound to act justly in dealing with their allies or tributaries; but there are a thousand cases in which it may be impossible for them to adopt their course to the ordinary forms of judicial procedure. I must, therefore, regard a precedent as highly inconvenient, if not highly dangerous, which would establish the rule, that the British Government cannot depose any prince not taken *flagrante bello*, except through the medium of a formal trial. If we are to go so far, indeed, I know not why we should not go farther. The Raja might ask that half the Commissioners should be subjects of Sattara or of some other Native country: he might claim a right of challenge: he might insist on being tried by his peers. There is no end to the demands and difficulties that might arise.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Governor,
31 May 1838.

55. It would be more agreeable to ordinary practice, and would at the same time satisfy the ends of justice, if the Raja were supplied, in writing, with the nature of the facts brought forward in evidence against him, and were called to meet them with any defensive or explanatory statement which he might think fit to offer. In the letter of Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans of the 17th January last, to which I have already alluded, there is a summary of the evidence to be submitted to the Raja, as constituting the charges against him; whether such evidence should be communicated to his Highness in full, or in an abridged or abstracted form, may be a question for consideration. Mr. Anderson, as I collect from his minute of the 22d Instant, would hold the latter plan to be sufficient, and his authority on such a point is high; but the determination must rest with the Government of India.

56. There is, however, a very material observation to be offered in this place. Whatever be the mode of trial or inquiry we adopt, yet if the Raja is to have the opportunity of offering evidence (and I conceive that he ought), it is essential that he be placed in the same situation with any other accused person, and enjoy the same advantages, but no more. Pending the trial or other proceeding, therefore, his functions of sovereignty should be suspended. His ample wealth and despotic power furnish him with almost unlimited means of procuring favourable evidence by corruption, and of deterring by violence or intimidation all evidence of another character; and of these means, if left in his hands, he is likely to avail himself without scruple. Such a perversion of justice it is essential to prevent; and this may, I conceive, be done in the manner I have proposed. Let the accused be allowed the widest latitude and the utmost facility of defence; but let him be disarmed, for the time, of the ability to defeat justice, by introducing falsehood and excluding truth.

57. On the supposition, that the effect of these proceedings will be to vacate the gadi of Sattara, it will be for consideration, whether any and what successor shall be appointed. This question I have considered anxiously, and with a sincere desire to advise, if I could do so conscientiously, that we should not utterly extinguish the state of Sattara, a creation of our own, a monument of British moderation and forbearance, and, at the same time, the last relic of the House of Sevajec. I regret, however, to declare my conviction, that we have no alternative. If a successor to the Raja is to be appointed, it must of course be his brother, Appa Sahib. His cousin, the Senaputtee, is clearly out of the question, being deeply mixed up with the treasons which have disqualified the present possessor. With regard to the brother, I believe with Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans, that he has had very little concern with those treasons. That he put his name to one treasonous paper, we know from his own statement; but it is a general, and I think a just rule, that a party making a voluntary confession should have the benefit of the extenuating circumstances he brings forward; and, under the operation of this rule, we must hold that Appa Sahib was induced to sign the paper in question by the fear that the Raja would take his life. Notwithstanding this circumstance, I am not disposed to recommend him for the throne which his brother has forfeited. The treaty does not bind us to it, for it was personal with the present Raja and its advantages have been lost. The very events which have caused this discussion shew the extreme inconveniences bound up in the existence of such a state as Sattara: a state obtruded into the heart of our dominions, intercepting some of the most important of our internal communications, and likely to be ever a hot-bed of faction and mischief. I have the less difficulty in pressing this view of the subject, because, though Appa Sahib may be free from grave offence, yet I am not aware of anything in his character or services, which should induce us to make any material sacrifice in his favour.

58. If the Raja be set aside, I conceive that a suitable provision, in the shape of a pecuniary pension, will be settled on him, on condition of his residing, under British surveillance, in some remote part of India. In like manner we might grant to Appa Sahib a pension, independent of that of his brother, and perhaps

perhaps on a more liberal scale, with liberty to reside separately, if so inclined; and this arrangement would, I cannot but think, be duly appreciated.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Governor
31 May 1838

59. In deposing the Raja and annexing the Sattara territories to our own, it would be necessary to issue a proclamation, fully setting forth the perfidious and treasonable conduct of which that Prince has been guilty, and referring to that article of the treaty under which, in consequence of his proceedings, his realm has been forfeited. Now that we are apprized of the extent and magnitude of the plots in which he has been engaged against his benefactors; I have no fear that the act of his deposal will be condemned, or that the public sympathies will rally in his favour. Long as his intrigues have remained undetected by the British Government, I am convinced, both from the evidence in this case and from other accounts, that the knowledge of them is very widely diffused; and, by the sensible portion of the community, he will be regarded as the victim, not of our power or tyranny, but of his own blind, insensate, and ungrateful ambition.

60. The subordinate agents, Dinkur Row Mohiteh, Bulwunt Row, Chitnavces Babajee Purarkur, Chintapunt Bhattey, and Rowlojee Naik Khaskur, should, I think, be put on their defence, and be confronted with their accusers. Their final disposal may be deferred; but, even thus early, I cannot but express my hope that it will not be marked by extreme severity.

61. Whether any, and what communication should be made to the Government of Portugal, it is not for me to say. The determination of that question transcends even the province of the high authorities to whom the Governments of British India are responsible. I do not, however, I hope, venture on absolutely forbidden ground, when I express my earnest wish that means could be found to procure to the Company the cession generally of the Portuguese possessions in India. To Portugal these territories are absolutely valueless, except as the shattered and fading memorials of past glory: to us they are most inconvenient neighbours, by breaking the continuity of our dominions, and by furnishing, in very supposable cases, rallying points for the discontents and disaffection of our own subjects. The Governor of Goa, in one of his communications with the Raja of Sattara, observes, that the port of Goa is the only door now open, by which his Highness may gain European allies against the British power; and certainly it is our obvious policy to seize the earliest opportunity of barring up this most inconvenient and possibly mischievous inlet.

62. I now close my series of minutes on the Sattara case, with the unfeigned concern at the length to which they have individually and collectively extended; with the highest admiration of the talent, assiduity, and ability, which the Acting Resident of Sattara has evinced, in detecting and exposing the treacherous and treasonable intrigues to which they relate; with the sincerest sense of my obligations to the Political Secretary, for his masterly assistance in digesting and methodizing the voluminous evidence in which these intrigues are embodied; with the deepest gratitude to my civil Colleagues, for the kind and liberal support with which they have favoured me, in their comments on these highly important facts of the case which have as yet fallen under their observation; and with my earnest hope, that the manner in which I have performed a duty, equally irksome, painful, and invidious, will, notwithstanding the many imperfections which, I doubt not, may be detected in it, obtain for me, in some measure, the approbation of the exalted Authorities whom I serve.

(Signed) R. GRANT.

31st May 1838.

**SATTARA
PAPERS.**

Minute by
Mr. James Farish,
31 May 1838.

MINUTE BY MR. JAMES FARISH,

Dated 31st May 1838.

The strong impressions which I had before derived from the evidence obtained by Colonel Ovens and Mr. Hutt, has been confirmed by the additional testimony now submitted, and from the clear and connected view traced out by the Right Honourable the Governor in this minute,* of the bearing of the most consistent parts of the evidence, in several cases quite independent, and almost beyond the possibility of concert, upon one set of facts, I have no doubt whatever of intercourse in infraction of the treaty having taken place between his Highness the Raja of Sattara and the ex-Raja of Nagpore, and that communications were made by the Raja of Sattara to Moodhojee Bhonsleh, commonly called Appa Sahib, of a treasonable character, having for their object to engage him to join in schemes for the subversion of the British empire in India.

(Signed) J. FARISH.

31st May 1838.

Minute by Mr.
G. W. Anderson,
1 June 1838.

MINUTE BY MR. G. W. ANDERSON,

Dated 1st June 1838.

I have only to record on these papers, that in my opinion, it is established by the testimony gathered from different quarters, that a communication existed between the Raja of Sattara and the ex-Raja of Nagpore, and that in this communication the Raja of Sattara had views and objects hostile to the British Government, affording another instance, and in a different direction, of long-standing treasonable designs on the part of that Prince. Another proof of his singular ingratitude and as singular folly.

(Signed) G. W. ANDERSON.

1st June 1838.

Minute by
Mr. James Farish,
4 June 1838.

MINUTE BY MR. JAMES FARISH,

Dated 4th June 1838.

1. In the minutes of 26th and 31st of May, in which the Right Honourable the Governor submits the views which he has taken of the remaining parts of the Sattara case, I generally concur. It is not necessary to rest much, as against the Raja, on the document to which Appa Sahib states that he was compelled to affix his signature. The fact of Appa's admission, that he did sign it, however it may mitigate the character of the act as an offence against our Government, is of too equivocal a nature, to render it at all safe, should the Government of India eventually take the decided course which they have already intimated to us, to admit of the transfer of the means of carrying on similar plots into his hands.

2. In regard to the Raja himself, the fact of breach of treaty, and forfeiture of all that was secured him by that treaty, is made out, so that any plausible defence appears scarcely possible. The very vindication set up by his advocate is an aggravation of the treacherous plots thus brought home to him, and avows sentiments of the basest ingratitude, which till lately he has always evinced by professions the most friendly. Nor has he been without warning; although, probably, aware that but little of his wild communications with the Goa authorities was known to Colonel Robertson, the warnings of that officer,
spoken

* 28th May.

spoken of in some of the proceedings under the term forgiveness, seem not in the least to have arrested or retarded the prosecution of those very designs.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute by
Mr James Far
4 June 1838

3. In their character, these schemes of ambition, though woven of weak materials and with little skill, are yet calculated, if not treated in an exemplary manner, to do extensive mischief to our rule. As the representative of the head of the Mahratta Confederacy, the name of the Raja of Sattara in any times of disturbance may prove to have a weight, of which we perceive nothing in times of peace. The plots which he has been carrying on are doubtless known, in some branches at least, as intimately by the heads of the Mahratta States as by ourselves: they also know that we have discovered treasonable acts, having for their direct object the subversion of our Government. They may give us credit for having discovered some of which we are as yet ignorant; but all India knows that he has been detected in the attempt to seduce our troops, and our not having taken public notice of it is attributed to any conjecture the most improbable, rather than entertaining doubts of the fact. On what we may now do, they will reckon as the measure of our future policy. The course we adopt will doubtless have a very salutary, or a very pernicious effect, upon our relation with one of them, the Guicowar. If passed by with comparative impunity, he may be tempted to go on from hate to hostility, or to commit acts which may place us in a similar position with regard to him. If treated with only that rigour which the letter and the spirit of the treaty provide, he may be arrested by whatever motives, and turned into a course which may be the preservation of his throne, and the restoration of politico-amicable terms, such at least as may re-establish those mutual good offices in our adjoining possessions of Guzerat, which have for some years been suspended, but which are essential to the maintenance of our supremacy there, and to the well-being and peace of the country.

4. As regards the particular measure proposed, of making the Raja acquainted with the charges proved against him, and giving him the opportunity of defence, although, in the peculiar position of the case, it seems to me hardly necessary, yet as exhibiting to the Native powers the equitable course we desire to adopt, as shewing him every lenient consideration, and awarding to him the fullest possible measure of justice, I do not hesitate to assent cordially to it; but with this it will be indispensably necessary, that for the protection of those who have given their evidence, and to prevent tampering with witnesses and intimidating them, as Colonel Ovans has pointed out, he be suspended from all power as Raja while making his defence. The political effect of this course is also most important.

5. This part of the procedure must, however, await the orders of the Government of India. With the clear and connected views of the various parts of the evidence supporting the charges which are given in the able minutes which our President has with such indefatigable labour prepared, that authority will have little difficulty in giving their instructions.

6. Perhaps it will be necessary, in the letter transmitting these last minutes on the Raja's conduct, to specify particularly the points in which instructions are required; and if they proceed to the measure of removing his Highness, either pending his defence or permanently, they should be conveyed with strict secrecy; and perhaps it would be important that the intimation should be sent direct, and by express, from the Governor General to the acting Resident, since the facility of giving effect to such orders would mainly depend upon the promptitude of the measures taken.

7. In the close of these proceedings, it is justly due to Colonel Ovans to record my sense of the eminent talent, deep penetration, and indefatigable industry, with which he has conducted the important, difficult, and anxious investigation committed to him, in which he has amply fulfilled the high expectations entertained, when, at a critical juncture, he was selected for the difficult task he has thus far prosecuted.

(Signed) J. FARISH.

4th June 1838.

MINUTE BY MR. G. W. ANDERSON,

Dated 7th June 1838.

1. Upon the paper of Appa Salib, the brother of the Raja, my opinion is, that it should not be brought in to tell at all events against the Raja, otherwise than as corroborative proof of the facts it sets forth. Of these facts direct proof is wanting; therefore coming, as it does, with a taint in the application of the succession to the raj, I think no consideration should be given to it.

2. The chief point that now remains for consideration is, the course to be adopted towards the Raja, in the extraordinary circumstances that have been brought to light, showing his Highness to have been engaged, for a series of years, in designs hostile to the British authority and in breach of the treaty, in virtue of which he now has his dominions.

3. On this question, I think, there is no middle course. Either all must be forgiven, or the territories be held forfeited and annexed to the British sovereignty.

4. In my opinion, the latter course is the one to be adopted.

5. It is apparent, that the Raja, from the first, entertained ideas different from those on which we placed him on the throne, and has thought he ought to be reinstated in all the powers and possessions of the house of Sevajee, as head of the Mahratta confederacy.

6. The idea to an ambitious mind is natural. It becomes alone criminal to us, when it takes shape, and actual designs are formed, and plans put in practice, to acquire those possessions at our cost and destruction.

7. That such were the views of his Highness there can be no question. It is true that the plans and designs of his Highness were mostly of a futile and impotent character; but to this there is one fatal exception, the endeavour to seduce the Native officers from their allegiance, proved on the case itself, and proved in the facts and the character of the proceedings in the other plots in which the Raja has been found to be engaged.

8. In this there was no weakness. The end strikes at the very root of our power, and is so decidedly fatal, that where it occurs, I cannot think there should be any compromise. It is to sow treason to us, to our sovereignty, so destructive, that where proved, there, I cannot but think, the onus should fall.

9. It is hence that I think the course should not be one of forgiveness: there is no part of the Raja's character that calls for it. We found him a prisoner, a mock sovereign; we liberate, and vest him with a real sovereignty. A prisoner in the Hill Fort of Sattara, he sues for a pardon at its foot. We give him a kingdom; and in place of gratitude for the singular munificence, we find him endeavouring to use the authority we so vest him with to the subversion of our Government.

10. He practises a long course of deception; and in no part does he show deceit and faithlessness worse, than in the false colour he now attempts to place upon the proceedings and negotiations of Mr. Elphinstone, his peculiar benefactor, and who watched the progress of his Highness's government and administration whilst he remained in the country, with a never-failing anxiety and interest. Perhaps, too, the worst part of Dr. Milne's advocacy is, in not disabusing his Highness's mind of these errors, and plainly showing them, as he must have known them to be, a tissue of falsehood.

11. It is not with such a character as this that forgiveness is called for, or that hope can be entertained that good would come of it; nor does it appear otherwise desirable.

SATTARA
PAPERS.Minute by M
G. W. Anders
7 June 1838

12. It is not desirable in policy, as an example to other states to whom we are in a similar relation. It is wise, I think, to shew, that with treason of a certain colour, as this, we have no compromise.

13. The acquisition of the country will be the acquisition of so much strength : and there does not appear any reason why, if forfeited, we should hesitate to take it : to resume what we had gratuitously given, if such resumption, on a certain contingency, was the condition of the bond, and that contingency having occurred.

14. To continue this territory, if forfeited, in other hands than our own, to set up another sovereign, is not demanded by the same policy which, at the time we made the grant to the Raja, was deemed cogent and wise.

15. It would be otherwise bad in this respect ; that to set up another party, there is danger of causing other plots, of making conspiracies the system by which the downfall of governments is to be attained, and this effect might spread, and have operation in other states than the one now in question. I should view the case as a forfeiture to the paramount state, not a question of succession, when, by cause of alliance or descent, a person could claim as in an inheritance.

16. If this succession does not exist of right, I see in this instance no reason why it should be conceded to either of the claimants who, it may be thought, have claim by relationship : that is, Appa Sahib, the Raja's brother, who advances the claim ; or the Senaputtee, Bala Sahib, who was part in the intrigues.

17. I have directed my attention solely, in the above observations, to the consideration of the course that should be finally adopted, in the event of its being determined that the Raja has forfeited his dominions, and that they are again at our disposal.

18. There is one other point in the last minute of the Right Honourable the Governor, on which I would beg to offer my opinion, whether, and how, the Raja shall be called upon for explanation in defence.

19. In a former minute I recorded, that I thought the Raja ought to be called upon for explanation upon the facts found against him. In doing this, I should have preferred a statement of the simple facts rather than the detailed evidence on which they are founded. It would have remained to have been seen, if the explanations afforded by the Raja required that any further information should be placed before his Highness.

20. I do not object, however, to the whole evidence, as indicated in the memorandum accompanying the Acting Resident's letter of the 17th January last, being at once laid before the Raja. At the worst, it can only lead to a lengthy, and perhaps confused discussion. In no degree have I any idea that the evidence can be shaken, or events shown to be otherwise than as, from so many collateral circumstances, they have been found and considered established.

21. I should not, however, consider it a wise course to depose the Raja whilst any inquiry was going on, be that inquiry of whatever nature it may.

22. It would be a shock to the feelings of the people, whether high or low, to find a sovereign so treated. They would scarcely (I should say, certainly not,) respect our motives. The degradation to the Prince would be thought of, not our sense of justice, and the course would rather be attributed to our weakness than our strength. I do not think it either necessary. The same end can be gained without it ; and the influence or power of the Raja to injure could, for such a purpose, be prevented, by our guarantee and assurance of protection.

(Signed) G. W. ANDERSON.

7th June 1838.

SATTARA
PAPERS.Minute
of the Governor,
8 June 1838.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR.

Dated 8th June 1838.

1. I am much obliged to my Colleagues for the care and attention which they have bestowed on this important case. It has been to me a source of great satisfaction, to find that, on all essential points, we are agreed; and it encourages me to indulge in the confident expectation, that our proceedings, in the painful and invidious task which we have been called to perform, will receive the approbation of the high Authorities by whom they will now have to be reviewed.

2. With reference to the 6th paragraph of Mr. Farish's minute, it will, I think, be sufficient to request the Governor General to favour us with full and explicit orders to guide our future proceedings. In regard to the most essential point, namely, whether the Raja should be put on his defence, his Lordship may be requested to prescribe to us the mode in which such a proceeding shall be conducted.

3. I think, also, that his instructions should be addressed to this Government, and not direct to Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens; for, possibly, it may be necessary for us to accompany them with supplemental directions. For the preservation of secrecy, which Mr. Farish justly thinks very important, the Secretary will have the goodness to retain the instructions in his own custody.

4. I observe that Mr. Anderson is adverse to the deposal of the Raja whilst defending himself. I am quite willing to leave this point to the determination of the Governor General, to whom it more properly appertains; but I am still, I confess, impressed with the idea of the extreme difficulty, if not impracticability, of bringing this matter to a fair and just issue, if his Highness is to make his defence while in possession of all those vast means of corrupting and falsifying the case which we know to be at his command, and which he is likely to employ with so little scruple. The persuasion, also, has now become general among his subjects, that he is certain, or nearly so, of acquittal, though that consummation may be delayed by the intrigues of the Bombay Government. The moral effect of this persuasion, aided by his free use of the means above-mentioned, is sure to give him a large body of witnesses ready to swear exactly as he may choose to dictate. As a counteractive to these mischiefs, Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens, who so well understands the case, has again and again declared, that a *suspension ad interim* of the Raja (for, after all, it is only a *suspension*, not a *deposal*) is an absolutely essential measure. Now, if any step short of his suspension can gain the object, let it by all means be adopted; but, as far as I see, there is none other, which will both afford efficient protection to true witnesses, and secure us against an inundation of false evidence.

5. The Governor General may, however, decide, that it will be sufficient to furnish a written statement to the Raja, embodying the facts of the case without calling witnesses; in which case, the suspension of the Raja may, at all events, be deferred until he has replied. I think, however, that our instructions should provide for a very probable contingency. It is possible that the Raja may demand to be confronted with the witnesses against him, or may insist on a formal trial, and to be attended by English counsel.

6. In all other respects I concur with the remarks of my Colleagues, and have only to propose that the whole case be now submitted, as early as possible, to the Governor General.

(Signed) R. GRANT.

8th June 1838.

MINUTE BY MR. G. W. ANDERSON,

Dated 9th June 1838.

I cannot think that the suspension of the Raja during any inquiry an essential measure. I should be concerned to see the degradation of the deposition of that Prince, unless as a final measure imposed in justice and for our own safety. I concur in all else of the present minute of the Right Honourable the Governor in Council:

(Signed) G. W. ANDERSON.

9th June 1838.

SATTARA
PAPERS.Minute by M
G. W. Anderson
9 June 1838.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

*Dated 24th August 1838.*Minute
by the Governor
24 Aug. 1838

1. I now submit to the Board the despatches, dated as per margin,* from Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens, forwarding extracts from an intercepted correspondence with the Raja of Sattara. These were circulated by our late lamented President on the 11th June last, and were afterwards returned to him, in order that he might remark on them, but which his subsequent illness and death prevented.

2. I would propose that the Acting Resident's letters and the correspondence be forwarded by an early opportunity to the Governor General of India, and to the Honourable the Secret Committee; and I need not suggest that every precaution be adopted to ensure secrecy.

3. It will be observed, that this correspondence is carried on in the Mahratta language, by a Carcoon named Rungoba, who is designated, both by himself and Dr. Milne, the Vakeel or agent of the Raja of Sattara. From internal evidence, however, it is already proved, that the correspondence originates from Dr. Milne, and, consequently, that he must be considered responsible for it.

4. In the 4th paragraph of his letter of the 15th February last, Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens notices the recent assumption by the Raja of titles not recognized by the treaty of 1819. This is not only remarkable in itself, but also from the circumstance that the title assumed, namely, "*Hindoo Pud Padshah*," (King of the Hindoos), is inserted in the copy of the treaty alleged to have been entered into with the Viceroy of Goa. (*Vide* No. 8 List E. of accompaniments to the Acting Resident's report of the 11th November 1837.) Dr. Milne in this correspondence fosters the Raja's ambition. Rungoba, in one of his letters dated the 28th December 1837,† writes thus: "Upon this the Sahib said, the Maharaj is not at all like the Jagheerdars, he stands in equal rank with the English Government, according to English rules. I write with pendant consideration; do not you fear." In another letter, of the 1st January 1838, Rungoba writes: "They say that the British Government gave the raj to the Maharaj: whence was it brought, and whose was it when given? This also will be taken into consideration by his Lordship. So he (Dr. Milne) said." In a letter of the 29th January‡ the agent writes: "In the *Gazette* of the 26th, the Sahib has inserted a publication, in which 'the Guicowar is a servant, and the Maharaj Sircar the master.' This and other matters are published at length, of which a translation in Hindooce is sent, and I will send hereafter the English to the Huzoor." On the 1st February§ Rungoba writes: "Ten letters have gone to the Governor General. Now the eleventh letter is under preparation alluding to the documents

"possessed

* 15th February, 17th March, 25th April, 31st May, and 15th and 16th August 1838.

† No. 8 of the series submitted with Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens's letter of the 15th February.

SATTARA
PAPERSMinute
by the Governor,
24 Aug. 1838

" possessed by Rani Rajee Maharaj and the Junior Shahoo Maharaj, after the late Shirajee Maharaj Chuttruputtee and Shahoo Maharaj Chuttruputtee from the Peshwa and others connected with the administration of the Empire, shewing the extent of the sovereignty, and degree of reverence enjoyed by the Maharaj Sircar;" and states that this document, when completed, will be sent to the Governor General, the Court of Directors, and the British Parliament. On the 5th February* he writes: "An extract inserted in the Gazette of the 2d instant, from the London Gazette, together with the answer of the Bombay Gazette, stating that the title 'Sattarakur Maharaj Sircar' appeared to be high, and giving admonition to the Governor Sahib, being translated from English into Hindooce, is sent in the service. In short, some one of the European friends who has gone has, in order that the British Parliament and the Court of Directors may know, that by raising a false charge of treason oppression has been used, written this in an obscure manner. I will also send the original Gazette to-morrow. Now, the Sahib having directed me to send the translation, I have sent it." On the 21st of February,† Rungoba forwards the document alluded to in his previous letter of the 1st, and thus describes it: "The substance of this yad is, that the sovereignty over the Hindoo Empire was held until the end of the administration of Bajee Row Ragoonath; that subsequently, communications took place with the British Government; that, according to appointment, the Raja, out of his own pleasure, came and joined the camp; that, after this, writings, communications, the treaty &c. were made." On the 2d April the Agent writes as follows: "Mr. John Milne asked me to-day thus: 'In English, the Maharaj is styled, Highness; how do you entitle him in Mahatta?' I answered, Shreemunt Maharaj Rajushin Chuttruputtee Hindoo Pad Pad Shah Sircar. Thus to style him has been the custom from former times, and as the English Padshah is, so is the Maharaj the King of the Hindoos. However, the Company's Government style the Maharaj Sircar Highness, and style Scindia, the Guicowar, Holkar, Nagpoorkur, &c. in Highness, then, whether in the English language there is or there is not any rule, cannot be made out.' Afterwards the Sahib said: 'First how the Kamjars committed an oversight cannot be conceived.' I replied: 'The dependents have been made Jagheerdars, and the privileges and titles which they enjoyed up to the end of the year (Suba) have been continued to them. Such an article has also been written, and the privileges and respect due to the Maharaj Sircar, and that he was the Sovereign of all, &c. was not thought of by Mr. Elphinstone.' He then said: 'The article, as regards the new Jagheerdars, is then explicitly written, so I think and now the Padshah is styled King and Majesty, and is also spoken of as Royal Highness.' So he said afterwards: 'At present I write Royal Highness, and when convenient make it a rule to write according to past usage.' I replied: 'I style him Hindoo Pad Padshah Sircar, and in English, Majesty, and write so in the signature; and in the book in which I take receipts for lukhotan (packets) sent to the post, I write according to the above and get the stamp put on it.' The Sahib said, 'It's right.' I report the conversation which has taken place." I deem these extracts of importance, because they prove the highly objectionable modes resorted to by Dr. Milne to maintain his influence over the Raja's mind.

5. The correspondence contains ample proofs of the extent and nature of the Raja's intrigues at Bombay, and shows that he has numerous agents in his employ besides Dr. Milne. Against this he has strongly protested, and has insisted, and apparently with some degree of success, that reliance should be placed on him alone. This bears strongly on the alleged intercourse of the Raja with Joudpore, and will perhaps tend to dispel the doubts which were at first entertained by the Governor General of India on this part of the case, in consequence of two distinct agencies being employed in carrying on that intercourse.

* No. 20 of the same series.

† No. 2 of the series accompanying Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans's letter of the 17th March.

No. 18 of the series accompanying Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans's letter of the 25th April.

intercourse. I shall therefore select such portions of the correspondence as more particularly relate to this subject.

SATTAR
PAPERs

Minute
by the Gover
24 Aug. 18

¶ 6. On the 17th December,* Rungoba, in Dr. Milne's name, writes as follows: "Meer and others, who are to go, are to be furnished with money and are to be sent. The Maharaj has no confidence in you (Rungoba), then why do you for nothing persist? I answered, 'As to their being about to go, this is nothing new.' He said, 'Now a sum of 18,000 is said to have been expended, but these people were previously in Bombay and are not known there. They went, and by holding out a prospect, they did any thing they liked for the sake of money. This circumstance became known to the Council, and knowing that nothing can be done by means of these people, and that no European gentleman was concerned in this, storms of various kinds have been raised. The same people are enjoying there the confidence. You know nothing of this; *but do you write from yourself and make it known. If there be many advocates a mishap will be the consequence.* If any one was required to be sent separately, the Maharaj should have sent some one of his servants of respectability. These people went and reliance was placed in them: how this mistake happened is not known. Now Meer Ibrahim the Dulvee, the Vakeel of Gokla, a certain Mussulman doctor, and others, are exerting themselves here with the Kaendars of the Council. Here every one is trying to do mischief. I would have inquired of these people before, but seeing that the Maharaj would not consider it agreeable, I have forbore; but the same method is kept up still and money is wasted. Such is the popular report.'" The agent, in conclusion, excuses himself from writing on this subject. In a postscript to a letter dated the 24th December,† the agent alludes to another agent, named Wittul Punt, as having been employed by the Raja, and states, that Dr. Milne had informed him, "a Sahib attached to Forbes & Co., and a Carcoon Parsee, were to be sent from Poona to Sattara." Against this the doctor is represented to remonstrate in very strong terms. On the 6th of January‡ the Raja is advised to recall a moktyarnamet (power of attorney) which had been granted by him to "Meer." This is repeated on the 11th;§ and in this letter allusion is made to recovering the sum of 10,000 rupees, which had been paid to Meer. On the 14th January|| Rungoba writes that, "Dr. Milne asked whether there were any other advocates in Bombay? On which I answered, that Wittul Punt, the Dulvee, Meer, and Ibrahim, were the advocates. On this he said, 'A certain Rajaram, Hurry Govjeer, under the false colour of the names of the Sowcars of Bombay, the Bottlewala, and others, is trying to make a communication to the Governor, which being sanctioned, the Maharaj has given some money and jewels in charge of him. Why do you deny any knowledge of this? Now the Governor is perversely opposed, and it is difficult for your communications to be listened to. If any money be given some trace will be discovered. I am an European and wrote the letters, guided by my knowledge of both sides, and an order came from the Governor General, and the letters went through the Council to Calcutta, and of the receipts I caused translations to be made immediately, and I made you send them to the Maharaj; but no confidence is placed. Two persons are sent to various places as advocates. They are devoid of sense, and it is not so that they are acting with prudence, and they bear malice. That low people do so you yourself say, and how do you do this? *As to this, by reason of other persons making a presentation, mischief only will be the consequence, and then it will become necessary for me and you to die by fighting a duet with pistols.* I will not countenance a false affair; then, excepting death, there will be no alternative. For the sake of the Maharaj I have fallen out with the Governor and other Sahib Loks, and I have originated enmity, and now I hear there are advocates at various places. Their representations are of a different kind, how *then can there be a coincidence?* The karburees of the Maharaj have maintained

"separate

* No. 5 of the series with Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans's letter of the 15th February.

† No. 8 of the same series.

§ No. 11 ditto.

‡ No. 10 ditto.

|| No. 12 ditto.

SATTARA
PAPERS.Minute
by the Governor,
24 Aug. 1898.

“ ‘separate representations, by reason of which the Sookung business will
 “ ‘miscarry. I (Dr. Milne) distinctly mention this to day, and it is requisite
 “ ‘for you to write thus much, that the Maharaj may find out what is true,
 “ ‘and put matters *under one direction*, or he may withdraw *from me and con-*
 “ ‘*tinue in any other quarter that may be proper.*” He got angry with me and
 “ said, ‘You do not write as directed.’” In conclusion, a man named Dada
 is sent to communicate with the Raja on the subject. On the 22d January*
 Rungoba writes a letter of remonstrance against a person named Hummut
 Rao Govondjee being associated with himself and Dr. Milne. On the 5th
 March† Rungoba reports, that he had been introduced to Major Raillee (the
 officer in charge of the 24th regiment of Native Infantry now in Bombay), who
 is represented to have observed “What can be done through my hands in a
 “Government affair? but do you show me the papers, then I will point
 “out some good course.” Rungoba’s letter of the 12th March‡ contains
 allusions to the different Agents employed by the Raja. In another letter of
 the same date,§ he strongly urges the Raja against other advocates; in one
 of the 13th|| he writes, in Dr. Milne’s name, “Many Agents are productive
 “of mischief.” In a letter of the 14th March¶ various persons are mentioned
 by name, as interesting themselves in the Raja’s cause; among whom are
 Cursetjee Jamsetjee and Nakhoda Rogey. On the 15th of the same month**
 he again conveys a remonstrance from Dr. Milne on the Raja’s policy,
 who observes: “The Kamgars for nothing have sent different agents,
 “and they are to make use of the name of the Maharaj, and whether
 “these advocates are honest or dishonest cannot be known. This should be
 “first provided against. This is my most earnest request to the Maharaj.”
 On the 18th March,†† Rungoba details the particulars of an interview between
 Dr. Milne and one of the advocates, and conveys the following message to the
 Raja: “As to what is this he is doing, *get a letter in my own name from the Ma-*
 “*haraj Sirkar within eight or ten days from this day, to the effect that none of the*
 “*party are to remain here, and that the confusion has been done away with.*” The
 agent excuses himself for writing so much on the subject, and observes:
 “*There being in Bombay twenty-nine Vakeels as advocates*, a petition setting forth
 “charges against each of them has been written, and a note addressed to me,
 “begging that this petition may be delivered to the Maharaj Sirkar. Such a
 “machination is going on here. After making a copy of that petition I will
 “transmit it.” On the 20th March, Rungoba‡‡ gives the following account
 of how this remarkable document came into his possession: “On the 17th
 “instant some Hindoos sent a petition addressed to the Maharaj Sirkar and a
 “note to my address. That packet was delivered at my lodgings in the even-
 “ing at the time of lighting the lamps, when I was absent. I opened it, and
 “found it to contain the course of proceeding pursued by twenty-nine Vakeels,
 “and it was deceitfully sent.” He states, he cannot discover the author, for-
 wards the petition and note, and observes: “These people of Bombay cannot
 “be controlled. Whosoever likes, writes whatever matter he pleases, and
 “sending it to the Durpunwaley§§ gets it published.” I beg to refer my Col-
 leagues to the anonymous petition, which professes to proceed from “the
 “Hindoo tribe now residing in the different *prants* of Bombay.” I think it
 highly probable that it was a *ruse* of Dr. Milne’s party, to give weight to their
 remonstrances against the employment of so many Vakeels. Each Vakeel’s
 character is described in terms of abuse, excepting Dr. Milne himself, who is
 stated to be “An old man and very steady, and one who will bring to its end
 “any thing that he may conceive. Such a person he appears to be. None of
 “the European officers in Bombay are on good terms with him.” The petition-
 ers remark, as Dr. Milne had done before: “If there be one Vakeel there will
 “be no interruption to business.” But the most disgraceful part of the *ruse*
 resorted

* No. 14 of the series with Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans’s letter of the 15th February.

† No. 12 of the series with Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans’s letter of 17th March.

‡ No. 15 of the same series.

§ No. 1 of the series with Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans’s letter of 25th April.

|| No. 2 of the same series.

¶ No. 4 ditto.

** No. 5 ditto.

†† No. 6 ditto.

‡‡ No. 7 ditto.

§§ Editor of a native newspaper published in Bombay.

SATTARA
PAPERS.Minute
by the Govern
24 Aug. 1836

resorted to, is that where the destruction of the Hindoo religion is alluded to: "Formerly a turbulence prevailed, but we did not witness it ourselves; now, however, by seeing the Vakeels, we suppose that it must have taken place in this very way, *or that the time of the destruction of the Hindoo religion is at hand. Being fully impressed with this, we think that this thing is very ill done; therefore, let the Maharaj have kindness on the Hindoos, and if he has any wish that our religion should be preserved, that his kingdom should continue firm*, and that the false accusation raised should be removed, he should recall all the Vakeels to him, and keep one at Bombay on this business from among them, who may be intelligent, knowing, smart, steady, and ready at answering. This should be done in the first instance, otherwise some serious mischief will be done by all these Vakeels. We write this under an oath." In a letter of the 24th March,* Rungoba alludes to Nana Sunkersett, one of our Native Justices of the Peace, in such terms as shew that the Raja had directed his agency to be made use of; but this is declined by the Doctor. The Raja also appears to have written: "Now we have placed the whole reliance solely on the Doctor Sahib." On which he observes: "I, a physician, after examining the distemper of the Maharaj, and prescribing medical remedies, and changing the nature of the medicine, have now contracted the whole of the distemper myself, and doses continue to be administered: do not have any fear." I might greatly multiply the extracts bearing on this point, but merely referring to Nos. 17, 20, and 22, of the series of letters accompanying Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens's letter of the 31st May, I shall conclude this part of my minute, by a brief allusion to the negotiations for entertaining on the Raja's behalf a Barrister of the Supreme Court. This subject is first alluded to in a letter from Rungoba, dated the 22d February,† at which time his name had not transpired, shewing that communications with him were carried on independently of Dr. Milne. On the 14th March‡ he is alluded to as being "sick with his leg hurt;" which proves that Mr. Howard is the Barrister referred to; and it will be in the Board's recollection, that this gentleman applied to Government for permission to visit Govind Row Dewan at Ahmednuggur, which was refused, the family of that person afterwards declaring that his interference was without their knowledge. From Rungoba's letter of the 4th April§ it appears, that Dr. Milne viewed this proceeding with jealousy; for therein the Raja is represented to have written: "As to this, do not you hereafter adopt such a course of speaking so inconsiderately. *If any one is coming into our party, it is not necessary to put him off inadvertently.* Whatever thing may, in the opinion of both the Sahibs, be thought favourable to our party, and to our advantage, should be done accordingly. Whether he should be believed, or you, cannot be perceived." He then details his efforts to effect a meeting between Dr. Milne and the barrister (Howt Sahib), which the former declined; observing, "if the Maharaja's complaint were to be made to the King's Court, three law barristers would be required: I do not require in this affair any European or Native to assist me." On the 20th May,|| Rungoba forwards a memorandum, containing particulars of the nature of the negotiations made with Mr. Howard; to which, as well as to Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens's remarks thereon in the twelfth paragraph of his letter of the 31st May, I request attention. The Raja's object appears to have been to get his cause into the Supreme Court; that, in consequence of Dr. Milne's disapprobation, the project was for a time suspended, but that ultimately engagements of some kind were entered into, 3,000 rupees per mensem, and a reward at the end of the business, being assigned to Mr. Howard in remuneration for his services.

7. Independently of his Bombay agents the Raja has numerous agents, and carries on an extensive correspondence with England; and I shall now proceed to select extracts bearing on this point. On the 12th December¶ Rungoba writes: "A certain great man is about to proceed to Europe: I have explained to him the papers, and how the difference arose, and also how a suspicion subsequently originated. All this I made him understand

" by

* No. 9 of the series of 25th April.

† No. 4 of the series of 25th April.

|| No. 26 of the series of 31st May.

‡ No. 2 of the series of 17th March.

§ No. 19 ditto.

¶ No. 3 of the series of 15th February.

SATTARA
PAPERSMinute
by the Governor,
24 Aug. 1838.

" by verbal communication and by papers. He is familiar with the affair of the Sirkar from the first. He and Milne Sahib are of one place and friends. " He is well aged. He has tendered his salaams." On the 28th December* he writes : " The great man and friend is to go to England. In order that he may fully understand the case, the whole of the depositions and other papers sent to Calcutta by Mr. Milne are given to him for perusal. The Sahib is arranging to give him copies of such of the papers as he thinks important." On the 14th January† Dr. Milne, when strongly objecting to the employment of many advocates, is represented to observe as follows : " I sent an European to England, not minding the inconvenience arising from my own business, and without expending any money of yours for the present ; for in the same way as the Governor has entertained a perverse opposition, I have fostered it." I think it very probable that Mr. M'Donald, formerly editor of the *Bombay Gazette*, is the agent here alluded to. On the 21st January‡ allusion is made to a letter from the Rajah, " transmitted by Rungoba, through a friend of his, to the British Parliament," the receipt of which had been acknowledged. On this Rungoba observes : " I have agreed with the friend, that after our letter reaches its destination, and when we have received an answer, I will take him to the Hoozoor (Sattara) and make a petition, and that the Sirkar will out of grace please him in a manner suitable to his character and becoming the high name of the Sirkar. Such a pledge I have given him. Here no expense was incurred for transmission, even though the affair was a difficult one: the charge which may be incurred there only for delivering it will come in writing. After the letter being delivered to the British Parliament an answer will come. Now he has acknowledged its receipt." On the 26th January§ Rungoba writes fully about the communications with England, and reports that Dr. Milne had said : " Robertson Sahib and other Sahib Loks, servants of Government, are afraid to write letters, I have expressly sent another good man to England, of which you are aware. This affair is great, and will take some time, more or less this noise has extended as far as Calcutta and England:" and promises to go himself to England if necessary. ¶ The same letter alludes to the receipt of one from England " from Messrs. Sanderson and Co., copy and translation of which is sent to the Raja." It appears that this was in reply to one sent direct by Rungoba before he became associated with Dr. Milne. On the 28th February|| Rungoba informs the Raja, that Colonel Robertson, formerly Resident at Sattara, " thinking it not right to sit here, looking at the adverse time hanging over him, and knowing that, unless he went back to England and exerted himself it would not be well," had proceeded to England on sick certificate. On the 13th March¶ the agent writes : " Mode of transmission to England. Colonel Robertson being a Government servant, no answer to letters to him came ; therefore an European good advocate, commanding influence, was written to, to be Vakeel, and having communicated to him the probable extent of monthly allowance, and having appointed him as Vakeel to make a representation to the Court of Directors, letters of the Sahib went to him, and are constantly going." He further states : " As soon as information was known from Calcutta, *Megh Sahib*,** another advocate was sent, in order to represent to the Court of Directors, and if circumstances required, to the King's Government, the Parliament. Three other friends who went were made fully informed, and entrusted with papers to deliver to Robertson Sahib. Two are advocates of truth : one has already given an acknowledgment by a publication." Colonel Lodwick is likewise alluded to, as interesting himself in the Raja's cause, in order to shake off the blame on him." On the 15th March,†† allusion is made to Mr. Ironside having proceeded to England, and as being likely to be of service. " He saw the papers here, and the papers since prepared he was desired to see there with Robertson Sahib." From this

* No. 8 of the series with Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans's letter of the 15th February.

† No. 12 of the same series.

‡ No. 15 ditto.

§ No. 16 ditto.

|| No. 8 of the series of 17th March.

¶ No. 3 of the series of 25th April.

** Mr. Macdonald.

†† No. 5 ditto.

SATTARA
PAPERS.Minute
by the Govern
24 Aug. 1837

this letter it also appears, that the Raja had written about Dr. Milne himself proceeding to England.* On the 24th March, he alludes to a letter to be addressed to Lord Clare, and observes, "At Calcutta and England, good measures are adopted. The advocates have reached: now, no fear can be entertained." On the 25th March † he announced the arrival of a steamer from England, and that by her Dr. Milne had received a letter from Colonel Ballantine, dated the 24th January, stating that he had represented the Raja's circumstances to Sir James Carnac, and alluding to his own case and the aid afforded to him by Dr. Milne, whom he described to Sir James as "a gentleman of experience, rigidly just and of good principles. He will not interfere in any false affair as he writes there, the case of the Raja of Sattara is founded in truth, and his manners are also good." A letter from England to Dractyce is referred to in confirmation of the above. On the 30th March ‡ Rungoba reports, that letters had on that date been sent to Colonels Robertson and Lodwick. On the 2d April, § Rungoba reports, in detail, what letters had been forwarded to England on the 1st of July 1837, "to the House of Parliament," by an intimate friend of his, to a mercantile correspondent, "without spending any money," and that their receipt had been acknowledged. He forwards, at the same time, copy in English, and a translation of a letter received from Messrs. Sanders and Co., stating, an account of charges would be sent, which must be paid when an answer is received from the Parliament. On the 6th April || the agent transmits, by order of Dr. Milne, translation of a letter received "from an European friend of the Doctor Sahib." To which I beg particularly to refer, as containing proof of the discreditable devices practised by Dr. Milne to maintain his influence over the Raja of Sattara. The letter states, that the Governor "is recalled to England" for the following reasons: 1st, for not attending to an order from England and Calcutta, to establish a bank in Bombay; 2d, for treating the Raja of Sattara with dishonour and disrespect; 3d, for disobeying the orders of the Court of Directors, to compel the Guicowar to pay the demands of Dhackjee Dadajee; 4th, for subjecting Colonel Ballantine to difficulty and distress; 5th, in consequence of various complaints from the Governor General that the Governor of Bombay will not obey orders. In a letter of the 20th April ¶ Rungoba states, that Dr. Milne had sent privately to the Governor General copy of a letter which he had received from Mr. Elphinstone, copy of which he forwards to the Raja. On the 25th April ** he again alludes to this communication; and, by Dr. Milne's desire, instructs the Raja to send letters to Mr. Elphinstone and Lord Clare. On the 30th April †† he refers to a letter written by Dr. Milne to Mr. Elphinstone. On the 2d May, ‡‡ he refers to various papers sent to the Court of Directors by the steamer, and alludes to himself proceeding to England. On the 14th May, §§ he forwards translation of a letter received by Dr. Milne from his friend in England, and states that the doctor has most particularly desired that it may be kept secret. Rungoba's letters of the 18th and 20th May ||| likewise contain certain allusions to communications received from England. In conclusion, I beg to refer to Lieutenant Colonel Ovens's remarks in the third and fourth paragraphs of his letter of the 31st May, in which he states, he has reason to believe "that the translations of these English letters sent to the Raja are made in such a manner, as best to suit the purposes of these Bombay agents, without much attention either to truth or accuracy."

8. This correspondence further proves, that Dr. Milne has, throughout his agency, instructed the Raja what communications he should make to Government; which is not unimportant. On the 9th December, ¶¶ Rungoba, in Dr. Milne's name, requests the Raja to send copies of petitions from the heirs or wives in the houses of Rajushri Dinkur Row Mohitch, Babajee Purarkur, Rowlajee

* No. 9 of the series of 25th April.

† No. 16 ditto.

‡ No. 20 ditto.

§ No. 6 ditto.

|| No. 11 ditto.

||| No. 23 and 24 ditto.

† No. 10 ditto.

§ No. 18 ditto.

¶ No. 3 of the series of 31st May.

†† No. 10 ditto.

§§ No. 19 ditto.

¶¶ No. 2 of the series of 15th February.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Governor,
24 Aug. 1838.

Rowlajee Naick, and Govind Raojee. This requisition is repeated on the 15th and 18th December;* and still more recently on the 24th;† “That zubanees or urzees (depositions or petitions) should come. A supplication was written before, two or three times; but now the Sahib has said, ‘write and send about the above matter, and write a supplication to the Maharaj Sirkar, that now, by papers and by any circumstances more or less, I should be immediately assisted. If dispatch is not used at the proper time there is helplessness.’” In a letter of the 28th December,‡ Rungoba alludes to a letter from the Raja forwarding some zubanees, which he took to Dr. Milne, “who was much delighted.” It further appears, that copies, in English and Mahratta, of all Dr. Milne’s letters to the Governor General are sent to the Raja; and the following extracts will shew what is the object of this precaution. On the 12th December,§ Rungoba writes: “Mr. John Milne Bahadoor forwarded, through the Governor in Council, letters to his Lordship the Governor General, of which copies in English, and translations in Mahratta, six in number, as well as the letter written before to Major Felix, private secretary, have been already transmitted to the Hoozoor. Now yads in English, being copies caused by Milne Sahib to be made from the above-mentioned letters, and attested by his own hand-writing, have been given to me for transmission, in order that the Hoozoor may be acquainted with them, as documents to guide in speaking, which I also send on the service.” On the 15th December,|| he instructs the Raja how to answer any inquiry which the Resident might make respecting Dr. Milne’s letters, observing, “the communication here and that to the Hoozoor should coincide; let no mistake be committed. To this the Khawund (master) should pay the greatest attention. The Sahib has directed me to write on this subject.” The injunction is repeated on the 17th December; and on the 28th¶ the agent writes: “If the Resident asks, then an answer should be given, in a manner that the proceeding here and there may agree. He (Dr. Milne) has however desired me to write a hint:” On the 1st January** the Raja is instructed not to write any letter direct to Government, for that Dr. Milne’s letters are written “in the name of the Maharaj Chuttruputtee Sirkar.” From the context it appears, that the Raja had prepared some letter for transmission. In a letter of the 24th February,†† Rungoba gives the Raja instructions how to act, in case, as was reported, a Committee was sent to Sattara by the Government of India; but on this subject full and detailed instructions are contained in his subsequent letter of the 26th February,‡‡ which is deserving of particular attention, as a very curious communication. On the 9th March,§§ the agent acknowledges the receipt of the zubanee of Chand Sepoy, and states it is good. On the 15th March,||| Dr. Milne calls for certain documents. “Regarding this” (he is said to observe) “a petition from his brother, and zubanees as evidence, are required.” The same letter contains additional instructions to the Raja, in the event of a Committee being appointed. On the 24th April¶¶ a rough draft of a letter to the Court of Directors, prepared by Dr. Milne, is forwarded to the Raja, with instructions to transmit it in the usual form through the Resident, and to send a duplicate and triplicate to Dr. Milne, that he may send them direct to England. These instructions are repeated on the 25th;*** and the Raja is informed, “The rough draft in English was prepared by the Sahib with his own hand, of which a translation made in Mahratta is transmitted.” The agent, at the same time, sends a draft of his own. On the 2d of May,††† the appointment of a Committee is again referred to, and a memorandum††† of instructions is forwarded. On the 4th May,§§§ the Raja is called on to send a list of persons confined by Government, in a letter to be sent to the Court of Directors. On the 6th May,|||| the agent states, important papers had been sent

* Nos. 4 and 6 of the series with Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans’s letter of the 15th February.

† No. 7 of the same series.

§ No. 3 ditto.

¶ No. 8 ditto.

†† No. 3 of the series of 17th March.

§§ No. 14 ditto.

¶¶ No. 5 of the series of 31st May.

††† No. 11 ditto.

§§§ No. 16 ditto.

‡ No. 8 ditto.

|| No. 4 ditto.

** No. 9 ditto.

†† No. 5 ditto.

||| No. 5 of the series of 25th April.

*** No. 6 ditto.

††† No. 14 ditto.

|||| No. 17 ditto.

sent to the Raja, and requires a receipt; and again calls on him to send the letter to the Court of Directors, that it may be dispatched by the steamer, as well as letters to Mr. Elphinstone and Lord Clare. On the 20th May,* Dr. Milne is stated to have said, "Our advocates have arrived in England, therefore send now for a letter of the Sirkar to the Court of Directors, and one should be transmitted to the Resident, taking the copies: go." These extracts are sufficient to establish, that the communications purporting to be made by the Raja himself are, in many cases, not his, but Dr. Milne's own composition.

SATTARA
PAPERSMinute
by the Gover
24 Aug. 185

9. The most important circumstance, however, brought to light by this correspondence is, the shameful use (or rather, I should say, abuse) of the liberty of the press, which Dr. Milne has resorted to in advocating the Raja's cause. It proves him to be the author of the gross libels which have at different times been published in the *Bombay Gazette* against this Government, in allusion to the Sattara case; and these have invariably been transmitted, by Dr. Milne's orders, to the Raja, as a proof of the power at his command to vilify the Government of which he is the pensioned servant. Dr. Milne's connexion with the *Gazette* press is matter of notoriety, and Mr. Macdonald, recently the Editor of that paper, is believed to have proceeded to England as the Raja's advocate. On the 29th January† Rungoba writes: "In the *Gazette* of the 26th the Sahib has inserted a publication, in which, 'the Guicowar is a servant and the Maharaj Sirkar the master.' This and other matters are published at length, of which a translation is sent in Hindooce, and I will hereafter send the English to the Hoozoor." On turning to file of that date, I find that Dr. Milne's object was to revive the Raja of Sattara's pretensions to be regarded as the Guicowar's "former sovereign," and to advocate his acknowledged claims to superiority over the whole Mahratta empire, which, I need not observe, ceased with the downfall of the Peishwa. On the 5th February‡ Rungoba forwards an extract from the *Gazette* of the 2d from the *London Gazette*, together with the answer of the *Bombay Gazette*, stating that the title "Sattarakur Maharaj Sirkar," appeared to be high, and giving admonition to the Governor, "explaining that it had been written by some one of the European friends, in order that the British Parliament and the Court of Directors may know, that by raising a false charge of treason, oppression has been used, and so forth." He states, that this is sent by Dr. Milne's direction. It refers to a squib alleged to be taken from a Scotch paper, but in all probability concocted in Bombay, stating that Sir R. Grant was to be raised to the peerage, under the title of "Earl of Sattara." Allusion is also made to the effusions of the *Gazette* in Rungoba's letters of the 18th and 24th March.§ On the 6th March|| Rungoba reports: "This day the *Gazette* was published, that an order from the Governor General has come to Bombay. Of this a translation in Hindooce and the original *Gazette* are sent to the Hoozoor, by which it will be known." The notice referred to appeared in the *Gazette* of the 5th March, and reflects most severely on the measures of this Government at Sattara, characterizing them as "most oppressive and injurious, and highly detrimental to our credit with the Natives, and productive of inconvenience and annoyance to one of the best affected Princes of India to the British Government." On the 25th March¶ the agent forwards "translation of the matter published on the 24th instant in the *Gazette* and *Courier*, and the English papers:" and on the 26th** he writes: "In the publication of the *Gazette* and the *Courier* of the day before yesterday, the matter regarding the removal of the Governor Sahib, and so forth, is written, which may most probably have been received." On the 12th May†† Rungoba writes: "In the *Gazette* of the 11th instant it is stated, that puttans of women have been prepared, and that the Court of Directors having passed a decision in favour of the Maharaj

" Sirkar

* No. 24 of the same series.

† No. 20 ditto.

‡ No. 10 of the series of 17th March.

** No. 12 ditto.

†No. 17 of the series of 15th February.

§ Nos. 6 and 8 of the series of 25th April.

¶ No. 11 of the series of 25th April.

†† No. 18 of the series of 31st May.

SATTARA
PAPERS.Minute
by the Governor,
24 Aug. 1898.

"Sirkar, have declared the Maharaj innocent, and so forth. After translating it, I will send it to-morrow."

10. I request the Political Secretary will have the goodness to collect the notices above alluded to, in order that they may accompany the correspondence. It is for the Governor General and the Home Authorities to determine, whether one of its pensioned servants should, with impunity, resort clandestinely to the press, to bring the Governments of the country into disrepute. I conceive that, if such endeavours are to pass unnoticed, the most injurious consequences will result. I am aware that, under the existing laws, this Government is powerless; but this naturally suggests, whether some law ought not to be passed to provide against such a monstrous abuse of the liberty of the press. Dr. Milne receives a pension of £700. per year, and the Court may, perhaps, take into consideration, how far his most unjustifiable proceedings ought to affect this; or, at all events, whether it is not expedient to stop its payment in this country, and declare that henceforward it shall only be payable to himself in person at Leadenhall Street.

11. The correspondence teems with abuse of the Bombay Government and its officers. In illustration of this I shall give a few extracts. On the 26th January* Rungoba represents Dr. Milne to state: "His Lordship pays great attention to my letters, and after making inquiries, writes to the Governor, requiring him to send immediately the proof, as to upon what grounds he *has raised this storm*, and as to what are the documents. In the same way as the Maharaj will not suffer himself to be stigmatized *by false accusations raised, so the Governor is placed in the same situation*. Out of two parties, one must consider himself as worsted; how can that be done soon? Now, after some time, the Governor will write that they cannot be proved." On the 30th January,† the Government is charged with instigating false claims and accusations against the Raja, and Dr. Milne is represented to reply to some questions from the Raja thus: "About this the Maharaj should have no fear. Let them (the Government) write what they like, *by dressing it up*, I will afterwards call on them to account for this." On the 21st February‡ he writes, that the Governor General had written a letter of censure to this Government; and on the 22d§ as follows: "From Bombay, out of spite to the Raja, *and in order to take charge of every thing*, such written communications out of perverseness are made. Upon this, the persons composing the Committee there (Bengal Council) have drawn an inference, that the English Authorities at Bombay *write from malice, and that there is no document*." I beg also particularly to refer to Rungoba's letter of the 26th February,|| but more especially to the seventh paragraph; likewise to the falsehoods and abuse contained in the agent's letter of the 2d March,¶ and to the allusion made to the case of the village of Rawluj, in his letter of the 3d of the same month.** In another letter of the 12th March†† Rungoba writes: "Just then an order came from Calcutta 'to that effect: 'Oppression has been used and enmity raised against the Raja by listening to false speakers: this appears from your written communications. You declare the Raja's case to be untrue, by using any pretext that you should persecute him (the Raja) is not right. Be it so. We have sent your letters and those of his to England, and will send those which may come. You should preserve your own character. This has happened, and has been done very ill.'" In another letter of the same date‡‡ Rungoba mentions the receipt of a letter from a European friend of Dr. Milne at Calcutta, stating that the Governor General was greatly displeased with the Governor of Bombay, "for having acted contrary to rules, and shown dishonour; that the Governor had been actuated by enmity, and had done a thing liable to censure." On the 13th March,§§ Dr. Milne is stated "to have made the Hindoos come off upperhand." On the 25th

* No. 16 of the series with Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans's letter of the 15th February.

† No. 18 of the same series.

‡ No. 1 of the series of 17th March.

§ No. 2 ditto.

|| No. 5 ditto.

¶ No. 10 ditto.

** No. 11 ditto.

†† No. 15 ditto.

‡‡ No. 1 of the series of 25th April.

§§ No. 3 ditto.

SATTARA
PAPERS.Minute
by the Govern:
24 Aug. 1831

25th March *the Governor General is reported to have written: "But Sir Robert Grant, without understanding it, and *influenced by stubbornness, is degrading both the Governments*; therefore, the letters which came from the Raja, as well as those sent by the Governor, are transmitted. The Court of Directors having seen them, immediately dismissed him, and having appointed another Governor, an order has gone to the Governor General." In a letter of the 25th March,† the Governor General is represented to praise Dr. Milne, informing this Government that he was a "pensioned and old servant of the Company's Government, of experience, mature age, and of high character." On the 30th March,‡ Rungoba writes in Dr. Milne's name: "As the order from Calcutta was not attended to, his Lordship was displeased, and wrote a complaint to England that they would not obey the orders." I have in a previous part of this minute alluded to the aspersions cast on this Government in Rungoba's letter and enclosure of the 6th April.§ On the 26th May|| Rungoba writes as follows: "The Mookt (the Governor) is in deep consideration; the cause is, the Bengal Government have written, 'The communications hitherto written by you regarding the Maharaj appear to us to have been written out of spite; and as regards the suspicion, on looking for any fault on his part, nothing appears to us. Such being the case, what you have done is a very improper thing done.' In consequence of this his body is inflamed, and he is in consideration, by writing to England, by some act or other, the blame on him should be removed, leaving the Council and taking pains he was writing. But any communication to be sent to any distant country could not be sent without the concurrence of the Members of Council, therefore Anderson Sahib, Boyd Sahib, and Reid Sahib, seeing the contents of the report, and finding that the whole of the proceeding was out of malice, a conversation between them and the Mookt passed thus." For further particulars I beg to refer to the letters of the gentleman above named, being represented as advising the Governor to throw the blame on the Resident, to which effect a report was prepared and dispatched.

12. Another circumstance worthy of remark in this correspondence, is Dr. Milne's interference with matters altogether unconnected with the Sattara case. On this point I shall content myself with a general reference to Nos. 2, 4, and 6 of the series accompanying Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens's letter of the 17th March, and to No. 5 of that sent with his letter of the 25th April.

13. There is one letter of the series accompanying Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens's letter of the 17th March, which deserves to be particularly noticed. It is dated the 12th of that month,¶ and the Acting Resident reports that it was superscribed, "this lukotah should be opened and read by the Khawund Sirkar himself; no one else should be allowed to open it." The allusion to a communication made by Ballajee Punt Natoo needs no other remark, than that it is a pure fiction of the writer. The 3d paragraph is of importance inasmuch as it proves that Dr. Milne demanded that 50,000 rupees should be remitted to him by the Raja, and consequently, that his object in so completely identifying himself with this case is not quite so disinterested as he would wish us to believe. The Raja, it appears, had alluded to a report that he was to be confined in the fort; and on this being communicated by Rungoba, Dr. Milne is represented to have observed: "Do not have any apprehension. A ship also will arrive in the course of fifteen or twenty days. If such a thing take place, for expenses 50,000 rupees will be required, regarding which means should be adopted as soon as this letter reaches." The agent proceeds to remark: "In short, the money should be taken from the Treasury, under the plea that it has been sent to the Advocate in England. If the business here be accomplished, the money will remain in deposit with Milne Sahib. As regards this, I will send Rajushri Dada Prulhad in the course of two or three days. There is no cash. Let no such doubt be entertained: the time is of a difficult

* No. 10 of the same series.

† No. 16 ditto.

|| No. 25 of the series of 31st May.

‡ No. 11 ditto.

§ No. 20 ditto.

¶ No. 15 ditto.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Governor,
24 Aug. 1838.

"a difficult nature. If that happen, whose wealth is it? This should be fully "seen." On the 20th May* Rungoba again alludes to this requisition for money, and states: "The money should come and remain here. For the "purpose of dispatching me, an amount of money, from 30 to 50,000 rupees, "should come and remain with me, which will be expended only in the case "of my going. This plan being resolved on with the concurrence of the "Sahib and the friend, I have written it."

'14.	*	*	*	*	*
	*	*	*	*	*
	*	*	*	*	*
	*	*	*	*	*
15.	*	*	*	*	*
	*	*	*	*	*
	*	*	*	*	*
	*	*	*	*	*

16. In the foregoing review of the Acting Resident's reports, I have to acknowledge the indefatigable exertions of Mr. Willoughby. They tend forcibly to shew the importance of bringing to a close the question now before the Government of India regarding the Raja of Sattara, and the great evil that results from the intrigues now being carried on, which, at the present moment, should be put an end to, by an early and effectual decision on the proceedings and opinions of this Government now before his Lordship.

17. Nothing that will leave the seeds of the present disaffective power to spring up should remain. The affairs of Sattara may now be completely set at rest, by decisive measures, the effect of which will be extensively observed and felt; but if not so disposed of now, it may be more difficult to deal with them hereafter, should circumstances favour his Highness's assuming a more openly avowed position of hostility; the will to assume which is not wanting, and every inducement to do it has been fostered and promoted by our own servants in the character of his agents, by communicating with him, and through the instrumentality of an unprincipled and licentious press.

18. I have noticed this with regard to Dr. Milne in the 10th paragraph, and we should particularly bring forward in the letter transmitting these proceedings to the Governor General for instructions, the course to be pursued towards that gentleman.

19.	*	*	*	*	*
	*	*	*	*	*
	*	*	*	*	*
	*	*	*	*	*

20. It

20. It is desirable that the information now before the Board should be sent by the steamer to the Honourable Court; and, to admit of this, the papers should reach the Political Secretary as soon as possible, that there may be time to have copies of them made.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Govern
24 Aug. 1838

(Signed) J. FARISH.

24th August 1838.

MINUTE BY MR. G. W. ANDERSON,

Dated 25th August 1838.

Minute by M
G. W. Anderson
25 Aug. 1838

1. The Raja of Sattara in his difficulties, certainly brought upon himself by the various intrigues in which he has engaged, catches at straws and rests upon delusions. I am not surprised at this, nor do I think what appears in this correspondence of much importance as respects himself, except as taking the title of "King of the Hindoos;" but I think quite the contrary in respect to Dr. Milne; he knows the truth, yet the whole character of his advice to the Raja is deception, and fatal to his best interests. Dr. Milne well knows the principles of our Government, and that it is impossible that it can ever have so abused those principles of justice, as to render valid the miserable acts and intrigues into which he has entered, and with which he deludes the Raja.

2.	*	*	*	*	*
	*	*	*	*	*
3.	*	*	*	*	*
	*	*	*	*	*

(Signed) G. W. ANDERSON.

25th August 1838.

MINUTE BY MR. J. A. DUNLOP,

Without Date.

Minute by
Mr. J. A. Dunlop
Without date.

1.	*	*	*	*	*
	*	*	*	*	*

2. Dr. Milne's conduct is so bad, that some means should be taken to mark the displeasure of Government, both as a warning to others in his situation, and to the Natives under our protection, who might be misled, and I may say, plundered, as the Sattara Raja has been.

(Signed) J. A. DUNLOP.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Dated 25th August 1838.

Minute
by the Governor
25 Aug. 1838.

(Subscribed to by the Board.)

1. Copy of this letter and enclosures should be sent to the Secret Committee and the Governor General, with the correspondence alluded to in my minute of the 24th instant.

2. The

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Governor,
25 Aug. 1838.

2. The facts herein reported are of considerable importance. It is beyond doubt, that Dr. Milne has lately passed a receipt for 24,000 rupees received from the Raja of Sattara. The pretext is, that the agent Rungoba is about to proceed to England.

3. I beg to refer to the thirteenth paragraph of my minute of yesterday on this part of Dr. Milne's proceedings.

(Signed) J. FARISH,
G. W. ANDERSON,
J. A. DUNLOP.

25th August 1838.

Minute
by the Governor,
27 Aug. 1838.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Dated 27th August 1838.

(Subscribed to by the Board.)

1. Copy of this letter should be sent to the Governor General, with reference to our letter of the 3d July.

2. The documents accompanying it are of some importance, as clearing up the only doubt which formerly remained regarding Girjibace's petition.

3. The writer is now discovered, and he has identified the original petition, which is in Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens's possession. The precautions to secure secrecy, for fear of the consequences on discovery, are remarkable.

4. Rungoba's letter of the 18th June shews that he had another meeting with Mr. Baber, who had promised to write to his friend at Goa, to ascertain what was newly passing there.

5. Copy of this communication should be sent to the Secret Committee.

(Signed) JAMES FARISH.

27th August 1838.

Minute
by the Governor,
31 Aug. 1838.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Dated 31st August 1838.

(Concurred in by the Board.)

On receipt of this letter, I informed M. ———, I could not answer his application in my individual capacity.

This correspondence should be sent to the Governor General, because the Raja of Sattara, by treaty, is bound not to communicate with persons of this description.

(Signed) J. FARISH.

31st August 1838.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Dated 5th September 1838.

(Concurred in by the Board.)

SATTARA
PAPERS.Minute
by the Govern
5 Sept. 1838

It is worthy of remark, that M. ———'s first request was to be permitted to accept employment from the Raja: he now asks permission to settle in the Sattara territory, to carry on some speculation he has in view.

I think, without assigning any reasons, M. ——— should be informed, that Government cannot grant him permission to proceed to reside within the Sattara territory.

(Signed) J. FARISH.

5th September 1838.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Dated 6th September 1838.

(Concurred in by the Board.)

Minute
by the Govern
6 Sept. 1838.

Copy of this letter should, if possible, be sent by the *Bernice* to the Secret Committee, in continuation of our former despatch on the same subject, and likewise to the Governor General of India.

(Signed) J. FARISH,
G. W. ANDERSON,
J. A. DUNLOP.

6th September 1838.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

{Dated 25th September 1838.

(Subscribed to by the Board.)

Minute
by the Governor
25 Sept. 1838.

1. The letter from the Raja of Sattara should be translated, and copy of it sent to Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens for his remarks.

2. It should also be forwarded to the Governor General, with an intimation that it will not be noticed by this Government, until we are favoured with his Lordship's instructions on our several late communications on the affairs of Sattara.

3. We should request the Governor General's particular attention to the sixth paragraph of Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens's letter, and to the documents therein alluded to, proving that the Raja's agents in Bombay have not scrupled to communicate to the Raja events of a political nature, which are at present a cause of much anxiety and embarrassment to the British Government.

4. Is it, I may ask, to be tolerated, that persons, not only British subjects but servants of the British Government, shall transmit information of a political and secret nature, connected with military operations, to a foreign state known to be ill-disposed towards us? This Government cannot, of course, apply a remedy; but it is our duty to represent in the strongest terms the gross indecency and impropriety of such communications.

5. It will be seen, that Rungoba, in his letter of the 7th ultimo (No. 9), communicates in Dr. Milne's name, that disputes exist between us and Persia,

SATTARA
PAPERS.Minute
by the Governor,
25 Sept. 1838.

and Arabia, and Russia; that we have concluded a treaty with Runjeet Sing; that we are threatened with hostilities by the Chief of Nepaul, who has collected an army of twenty or twenty-five thousand men; and lastly, that the Raja of Burmah is preparing to war against us. He then adds, that he had visited Mr. Baber, who had confirmed the intelligence to the above effect received from Dr. Milne. In a postscript, he communicates information regarding the movement of troops and reinforcements expected from England; describes Shikarpoor; and states, "The Nepalwala has issued proclamations, inviting all Hindoos, whoever they may be, to co-operate and to enter his service." In Dr. Milne's name Rungoba enjoins secrecy. "The Sahib said, these matters, which I have directed you to write and report to the Maharaj Sircar, should not be publicly communicated to any one there." In a letter of the 6th instant (No. 12), the agent gives information regarding passing events in Afghanistan, and observes: "The Roos, Room, and other people, are warlike soldiers and sturdy. In the event of war breaking out it will be difficult; but the British Government is formidable. After this, good success or ill success in this rests in the power of God, Thus hath the Sahib said." In a letter of the 11th September he reports, that it has been discovered that the states of Rajpootana were in treasonable communication with Russia, and had written, "We all are one; with your co-operation we will expel the English from this country." In allusion to the Raja's own case the Agent observes, and I think significantly, "But there is no documentary proof." In No. 14 he reports, that the Russians and Persians have united against us, and that Dost Mahomed, Wuzeer of Room Sham in Turkistan, had joined them with a great number of troops; and in No. 15, that orders have been received from the Governor General to send thirteen regiments from Bombay, and twenty from Madras, against the Russians.

6. The three last letters of the series testify that Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans acted with his usual judgment, in suggesting that my letter, announcing the death of the late Governor, should not be delivered, and the manner in which his Agent intended to misconstrue that communication.

7. Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans's present letter should, if possible, be sent to the Secret Committee by the October packet.

25th September 1838.

(Signed)

J. FARISH.

Minute
by the Governor,
3 Oct. 1838.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR.

Dated 3d October 1838.

1. This correspondence sufficiently proves the falsity of the representations made by M. ———, of the objects which he had in view, in requesting permission to visit Sattara, and shews the necessity which existed for our declining to allow him to do so.

2. It should be forwarded to the Governor General, with our opinion, that the public interests must suffer if some decisive measures are not soon adopted to put an end to these intrigues, by bringing the case of the Raja of Sattara to a final termination.

3. The Acting Resident at Sattara may be informed to the above effect, and the Secret Committee be informed, if possible, by the steamer about to leave.

(Signed)

J. FARISH.

3d October 1838.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

*Dated 3d October 1838.*SATTARA
PAPERS.Minute
by the Govern
3 Oct. 1838.

The communication which M. ———— has made to the Political Secretary shews strikingly the lengths to which the parties who are engaged in the Sattara intrigues are disposed to proceed. Whatever may have been M. ————'s object in the communication, whether the substance of this communication be true or fictitious, he should, if the law provide the means, be checked and punished for such proceedings. If the communication be true, and mean, as implied, that this person has been applied to by the agent of an Indian state for his aid in raising military levies, the communication is treasonable, in a British subject, if he withhold from Government the necessary information to enable them to adopt measures of counteraction.

Before, however, adopting any measure, it would be best to refer to the Acting Advocate-General for his opinion, as to whether the circumstances reported by the Political Secretary amount to an offence against the laws, and if so, of what distinct character, and what proceedings may be adopted against M. ————.

A copy of the memorandum, and of the reference to the Acting Advocate-General, should be sent to the Honourable the Secret Committee by the steam-packet, from which they will perceive the position in which Government is, through its highest officers, liable to be placed in the present state of the law, without, as we apprehend, the means of asserting its just position. But the result of the reference will hereafter be reported.

(Signed) J. FARISH.

3d October 1838.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

*Dated 5th October 1838.*Minute
by the Govern
5 Oct. 1838.

(Subscribed to by the Board.)

1. All the material points in this correspondence are noticed by the Acting Resident, in his letter forwarding it, to which the Governor General's attention should be drawn, but more especially to the 8th and five following paragraphs.

2. There is, however, one misrepresentation in Dr. Milne's letter which Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans could not expose. He observes: "Out of folly of his own, he went on a visit to Mr. Willoughby in the Secretariat, when, whilst they were mutually conferring, a violent quarrel took place which cannot be fully written. On hearing of that quarrel, I, though spirited, became wonderstruck. How could I write and report this." And again: "Such a Sahib entered into a controversy with Mr. Willoughby. To go into the Government-House without permission, and subject oneself to an act with disrespect to the Council, is a thing very ill done."

3. Dr. Milne evidently alludes to M. ————. It is needless to state, that nothing of the kind which he reports to have occurred at the interview between this person and the Political Secretary took place. On the contrary, in one of his letters, M. ———— acknowledges the "urbanity" with which he was received.

4. * * * * *
 * * * * *

5. With

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Governor,
5 Oct. 1838.

5. With reference to the allusion to a person named Nursoo Venktash, in the third paragraph of Rungoba's letter of the 19th ultimo, Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans should be requested to report who this person is, with any further information regarding his proceedings he may be able to obtain.

6. Paragraph seven of the Acting Resident's letter should, I think, be sent to Mr. Bell, with a request that he will report what precautions are in force to prevent the Chitnavacs from communicating with improper persons.

7. As there will not be time to send this in regular form to the Secret Committee, I request the Political Secretary will send copy of this communication and of my minute, at the same time explaining and apologizing for the irregularity.

(Signed) J. FARISH,
G. W. ANDERSON,
J. A. DUNLOP.

5th October 1838.

Minute
by the Governor,
13 Oct. 1838.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Dated 13th October 1838.

1. I have perused with the most unfeigned satisfaction the minute of the Right Honourable the Governor General of India, dated the 23d ultimo, recording his opinions on the case of the Raja of Sattara, which are, in fact, exactly similar to those which the Government had previously recorded.

2. I need not explain, that my satisfaction does not arise from the fact that his Lordship has pronounced the Raja guilty of the three principal charges preferred against him: it arises from the circumstance, that all the obloquy and reproach which has been cast on this Government, and more especially on our late respected and lamented head, by the Raja and his supporters, are removed. We have now the satisfaction of learning, that there is no disagreement between his Lordship and ourselves respecting the Raja's guilt; and in this uniformity of opinion rests the complete justification of the measures adopted by this Government, in the painful, difficult, and responsible position in which it has been placed.

3. With reference to the 10th paragraph of the Governor General's minute, I cannot refrain from observing, that I am not aware that this Government has ever stated an opinion, "that magnanimity in pardoning an offence of a weak ally is not, in different cases which may be readily contemplated, to be at all viewed as a suitable and expedient policy;" on the contrary, I am quite prepared to admit, that cases of this kind have happened, and may again do so, where the parties may evince repentance, and are likely duly to appreciate the clemency extended to them. All the remarks which I have made bearing on this question (and I think I may say the same of those which proceeded from the late Governor and my colleague Mr. Anderson) had peculiar reference to the individual case of the Raja of Sattara; and I am glad to find that the Governor General is of opinion that, in this case, "measures of leniency and conciliation would be perfectly inapplicable."

4. I now beg to propose, that copy of the Governor General's minute be forwarded to Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans, with a request that he will prepare and submit for our approval, with as little delay as possible, a statement of the description adverted to in the 12th paragraph.

5. To aid this able officer in the preparation of this statement, I would further suggest, that the Acting Resident be furnished with the summaries of evidence framed by the Political Secretary, and extracts from the minutes of Government commenting on them.

6. The

6. The only instruction which I deem necessary to issue to Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans is, that he should confine himself to the three principal charges against the Raja, and omit all doubtful points, and such as he conceives cannot be supported by sufficient evidence.

7. I should think a month or six weeks will be a sufficient period for the Raja to complete his answer. On this point, however, the Acting Resident's opinion may be called for.

8. In submitting the statement, Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans should report what measures he deems necessary for the full and efficient protection of the witnesses, and for preserving inviolate the guarantees which have been extended to them.

9. With reference to the 15th paragraph of the minute, Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans may be directed, as soon as he has prepared the statement with which he thinks the Raja should be furnished, to prepare a separate report on Dr. Milne's connexion with this affair. I may, however, observe, that our recent communications to the Governor General of India regarding this individual will have afforded his Lordship fuller information than he before possessed, respecting the highly objectionable character of his proceedings as the Raja's advocate.

10. I am much gratified to observe that the Governor General has noticed, in terms of high commendation, the eminent merits which Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans has displayed in the prosecution and report of these inquiries; and, I think, extracts from our letters bearing on this point should be communicated to this officer.

11. I think, also, it is essential to the public interests, with the view to support and strengthen Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans's authority in the arduous and difficult situation in which he will for some time to come be placed, that we should no longer delay confirming him in the office of Resident at Sattara, for which he has proved himself so eminently qualified. By doing so, we shall afford the best proof in our power of his conduct having merited and obtained our approbation: and, on these grounds, I have much pleasure in proposing his confirmation accordingly.

(Signed) J. FARISH.

13th October 1838.

MINUTE BY MR. G. W. ANDERSON,

Without date.

Minute by Mr.
G. W. Anderson
without date.

I entirely concur in the whole of this minute of the Honourable the Governor.

(Signed) G. W. ANDERSON.

MINUTE BY MR. J. A. DUNLOP,

Without date.

Minute by
Mr. J. A. Dunlop
without date.

I entirely concur also.

(Signed) J. A. DUNLOP.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

MINUTE BY THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF,

Dated 15th October 1838.

Minute by
Commander-in-
Chief,
15 Oct. 1838.

To the observations of the Honourable the Governor I cordially agree.

(Signed) J. KEANE.

15th October 1838.

Minute
the Governor,
without date.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Without Date.

(Concurred in by Mr. Anderson.)

In a matter of this nature I do not think Mr. Bell should so long have delayed reporting to Government.

These papers may be communicated to the Resident at Sattara, and the Political Agent in the Southern Mahratta country, in order that they may keep a strict watch over the proceedings of the suspected persons who reside within their range.

The question noticed in the last paragraph is set at rest, by the objections taken to the measure in the subsequent despatch from the Agent of the 16th instant.

(Signed) J. FARISH,
G. W. ANDERSON.

Minute
the Governor,
19 Oct. 1838.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Dated 19th October 1838.

(Subscribed to by the Board.)

Copy of this letter, and of the previous correspondence, may be sent to the Governor General, with a request that he will inform us, whether the proofs obtained by the Commissioner at Bittoor against these suspected persons are sufficient to justify the adoption of any measures against them; whether, for instance, they ought to be apprehended and a search made for the papers?

Copy may be sent to the Resident at Sattara.

The Acting Political Agent at Belgaum may be directed narrowly to watch their movements and proceedings.

The names of the persons are :

Venkut Row,
Abba Abheynugkur,
The Bruncharee,
Damodhur Shaskee.

If, by the employment of confidential agents, Mr. Simson can discover their real objects and the measures they are pursuing, he should do so and report to Government.

(Signed) J. FARISH,
G. W. ANDERSON,
J. A. DUNLOP.

19th October 1838.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Dated 29th October 1838.

(Subscribed to by the Board.)

SATTARA
PAPERSMinute
by the Governor
29 Oct. 1838

Copy of this communication, and of its enclosures, should now be forwarded to the Governor General and to the Secret Committee. It throws considerable light as to the mode in which Dr. Milne conducts his pernicious agency; and I think we might ask his Lordship, whether this should any longer be tolerated, and whether, with reference to those and other previous instances, Dr. Milne should not be peremptorily forbidden henceforward from holding any intercourse, direct or indirect, with the Raja, or any person connected with him? In this case, perhaps, also, it will be desirable to acquaint the Raja of the prohibition.

(Signed) J. FARISH.

29th October 1838.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Dated 31st October 1838.

(Subscribed to by the Board.)

Minute
by the Governor
31 Oct. 1838

Copy of this letter may be sent to the Resident at Sattara and the Acting Political Agent in the Southern Mahratta country, and the latter officer may be instructed to act agreeably to the orders contained in the 2d paragraph of the Government letter of the 31st October last.

(Signed) J. FARISH,
G. W. ANDERSON,
J. A. DUNLOP.

31st October 1838.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

*Without Date.*Minute
by the Governor
without date

Copy of this correspondence should be sent to the Governor General for instructions, with our opinion, that the affair is exceedingly suspicious, and that the Raja of Sattara holding direct communication with an adherent of Bajee Row's is a breach of his treaty with the British Government.

(Signed) J. FARISH.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

*Without date.*Minute
by the Governor
without date

I am doubtful whether any advantage would arise from making a communication, of the nature indicated, at the present moment.

I would therefore propose, that copy of this letter should be sent to Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens, and his opinion requested on the subject.

(Signed) J. FARISH.

SATTARA
PAPERS.Minute
by the Governor,
22 Nov. 1898.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR.

Dated 22d November 1838.

1. In his letter of the 15th instant, Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans, with great force, argues against the expediency of furnishing the Raja of Sattara with the statement ordered by the Governor General of India, and advocates the adoption, at once, of some final measures, with the view of bringing the case to a final and satisfactory conclusion.

2. I freely confess, I concur in the Resident's opinion. I do not see how we can, by any possibility, protect the witnesses, or prevent the Raja from tampering with them, or from having recourse to force, intimidation, and bribery, to induce them to retract their evidence, if the statement is furnished to him, and at the same time he is permitted to retain sovereign powers.

3. Although, therefore, I regret the delay which must be occasioned by another reference, I would propose that the question of our future mode of procedure should be submitted for his Lordship's re-consideration.

4. I am, myself, in favour of the temporary suspension of the Raja's authority; but this point must be determined by his Lordship. At all events, I am of opinion a commission should be at once appointed, with full and explicit instructions for the conduct of the inquiry; and when they have assembled, the statement prepared by Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans should be communicated to the Raja, effectual measures having been previously adopted for protecting the witnesses.

5. This course, indeed, if at once adopted, will bring the question to the earliest termination attainable. It may be abortive, unless the witnesses are effectually protected; and the only effectual means for their protection appears to me to be, that which is adopted in every judicial inquiry into charges affecting the conduct of a functionary in power, the suspension of that power, and the reason is of two-fold force when this power is that of a sovereign.

6. As supporting this view of the case, the Resident's separate despatch of the 15th instant, forwarding communications from Rungoba, should be forwarded to the Governor General. These, I think, prove that the Raja has already determined not to answer the statement, but to call for the depositions on which it is founded; which, it must be obvious, ought not to be granted until the period of his final defence.

7. Some doubts occur to me regarding the place at which the inquiry should be instituted. In some respects, I should consider it desirable that it should not be held at Sattara, and Ahmednugger, for instance, might be named. But this is a subject which will doubtless engage the Governor General's consideration.

8. Copy of the Resident's letters should, if possible, be sent to the Secret Committee by the December steamer.

(Signed) J. FARISH.

22d November 1838.

Minute by Mr.
W. Anderson,
without date.

MINUTE BY MR. G. W. ANDERSON,

Without date.

I concur in thinking that the letter Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans has addressed to Government, in submitting a statement prepared to be delivered to the Raja, should be sent to the Governor General, before acting upon the instruc-

tions we have received in respect to the proceedings to be adopted towards his Highness. Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans urges much argument and many reasons of great weight, which I cannot but think the Governor General would desire to have submitted to his judgment, on an occasion, and in a matter of such great importance.

(Signed) G. W. ANDERSON.

SATTARA PAPERS.

Minute by M
G. W. Anderson
without date

MINUTE BY MR. J. A. DUNLOP,

Without date.

Minute by
Mr. J. A. Dunlop
without date.

I concur in the proposed reference to the Governor General, under the difficulties represented by Colonel Ovans, which seem to be insuperable, if the communication is now made to the Sattara Raja.

(Signed) J. A. DUNLOP.

MINUTE BY THE BOARD,

Dated 30th November 1838.

Minute
by the Board,
30 Nov. 1838.

Copy of this letter and enclosure should be sent to the Governor General, whose orders may be asked, whether this mission is to be permitted to proceed to England?

Copy also may be sent to the Secret Committee.

(Signed) J. FARISH,
G. W. ANDERSON,
J. A. DUNLOP.

30th November 1838.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Dated the 11th January 1839.

Minute
by the Governor
11 Jan. 1839.

(Subscribed to by the Board.)

Copy of this letter may be sent to the Governor General of India. It is very probable that this is a fresh intrigue entered into, with the view of aiding in the Raja's defence. It will say the documents that have come into our possession are forged, and instance the papers herein alluded to as proof. This is, however, mere conjecture on my part.

(Signed) J. FARISH,
G. W. ANDERSON,
J. A. DUNLOP.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Dated 25th January 1839.

Minute
by the Governor
25 Jan. 1839.

(Subscribed to by the Board.)

I have some doubts of the expediency of making this communication to Dr. Milne, since it will lead to his calling for the intercepted correspondence, of which it would be highly undesirable he should at the present time be aware.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Governor,
25 Jan. 1839.

I beg, however, that this may be considered in Council; and, in the mean time, my Colleagues will have had the opportunity to consider the question.

(Signed) J. FARISH,
G. W. ANDERSON,
J. A. DUNLOP.

25th January 1839.

Minute
by the Board,
30 Jan. 1839.

MINUTE BY THE BOARD,

Dated 30th January 1839.

Dr. Milne may be informed that, under the instructions of the Governor General, and as a pensioner of the Honourable Company, he is to refrain from holding any communication, direct or indirect, with the Raja of Sattara or with his agents.

(Signed) J. FARISH,
G. W. ANDERSON,
J. A. DUNLOP.

30th January 1839.

Minute
by the Governor,
4 Feb. 1839.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Dated 4th February 1839.

(Subscribed to by the Board.)

As there seems reason to expect, that the circumstances now brought to notice will be attempted to be made use of, to refute the authenticity of the documents which have been obtained under circumstances which leave no doubt of their being authentic, the Resident should continue to obtain such information as may, when the affair comes under final inquiry, tend to the establishment of substantial justice.

(Signed) J. FARISH,
G. W. ANDERSON,
J. A. DUNLOP.

4th February 1839.

Minute
by the Governor,
12 Feb. 1839.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Dated 12th February 1839.

I do not know that we can withhold the port-clearance.

The authorities at such parts as the ship is expected to touch at may be informed, that M. ———— has been, while in Bombay, considered to be a person to whom permission to go into the interior should not be granted, in order that they may prevent his landing and remaining at any of the subordinate stations of the Honourable Company's territories.

In regard to the Natives, it would be proper for the senior Magistrate of Police to ascertain that they know exactly on what terms they are going to a distant country, and whether they go with their own free will and having means of support.

If they state that they are going under the orders of the Raja of Sattara, they might be detained pending inquiry of the Raja, who cannot be permitted clandestinely to send Native agents to England.

(Signed) J. FARISH.

12th February 1839.

MINUTE BY MR. G. W. ANDERSON,

Without date.

With M. ———, I conceive, we have nothing to say; but with the Natives, if agents of the Raja of Sattara, I think we have a great deal; and, as I have said in a former minute of this day, I think we should interfere to stop them.

If the Raja applies to send such an embassy, we may refer the application to the Honourable Court, and await the Honourable Court's orders.

(Signed) G. W. ANDERSON.

SATTARA
PAPERS.Minute by Mr.
G. W. Anderson
without date.

MINUTE BY MR. DUNLOP,

Without date.

I agree with the Honourable the Governor, that M. ——— should be watched, and that we have no authority forcibly to prevent Natives going, if they wish, to Europe.

(Signed) J. A. DUNLOP.

Minute
by Mr. Dunlop
without date.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Dated 12th February 1839.

(Subscribed to by Mr. J. A. Dunlop.)

I am not aware that Hindoos can be prevented embarking in a French ship as passengers for Europe.

The Raja of Sattara can send no deputation except through the authorized channel, and no such deputation has been authorized.

The grounds on which these persons are supposed to be proceeding to Europe from the Raja of Sattara should be reported, and their names stated.

The Resident to be informed, with a request that he will report, if any circumstance, confirming this statement of their being deputed by the Raja, comes to his knowledge.

The Governor General and Secret Committee to be informed.

(Signed) J. FARISH.

12th February 1839.

Minute
by the Governor
12 Feb. 1839.

MINUTE BY MR. G. W. ANDERSON,

Without Date.

As a deputation from the Raja proceeding without the consent of this government, I should think these persons could be stopped.

(Signed) G. W. ANDERSON.

Minute by Mr.
G. W. Anderson
without date.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

MINUTE BY MR. J. A. DUNLOP,

Without Date.

Minute by
J. A. Dunlop,
without date.

The intention of certain persons to proceed to Europe on the part of the Sattara Raja was reported to me; but I did not think we could stop them, nor am I aware on what grounds it could be done.

(Signed) J. A. DUNLOP.

Minute
the Governor,
13 Feb. 1839.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Dated 13th February 1839.

(Subscribed to by the Board.)

The reference to the senior Magistrate of Police should be made regarding these Natives, and the Advocate-General may be consulted, as to whether we can detain them on any information we possess, as deputed by the Raja of Sattara.

M. ——— is quite at liberty to go to Europe or to quit India, but not to land and remain at subordinate stations; and after intimation as proposed by me, the authorities at such stations will act on their own responsibility.

(Signed) J. FARISH.

13th February 1839.

Minute by Mr.
W. Anderson,
without date.

MINUTE BY MR. G. W. ANDERSON,

Without Date.

Does not the treaty forbid such a measure without our consent? It is to this I refer, not the general question.

(Signed) G. W. ANDERSON.

Minute
the Governor,
without date.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Without Date.

The Advocate-General may be referred to the treaty.

(Signed) J. FARISH

Minute
the Governor,
17 Feb. 1839.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Dated 17th February 1839.

(Subscribed to by Mr. J. A. Dunlop.)

If these persons are allowed to go, ought they not to be required to make a deposit, to provide against the Company being subject to any expense on their account?

The

The Acting Advocate-General has not yet replied to the reference made to him about these persons.

They cannot, I conceive, be prevented going. The four first should be required to lodge the usual deposit in the treasury for their servants, and the port-clearance should be granted.

The senior Magistrate should hand up the statement of each individual, which, it is presumed, he took in writing.

SATTARA
PAPERS

Minute
by the Govern
17 Feb. 1839

17th February 1839.

(Signed) J. FARISH,
J. A. DUNLOP.

MINUTE BY MR. G. W. ANDERSON,

Without Date.

Minute by M.
G. W. Anderson
without date

Under this report, I do not think that these persons can be prevented taking their departure.

(Signed) G. W. ANDERSON.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Dated 18th February 1839.

(Subscribed to by Mr. J. A. Dunlop.)

Minute
by the Govern
18 Feb. 1839

The suggestions in this letter more accord with my view of the course that should be adopted, and they should be immediately acted on. The examination of the parties, and the giving them information of their position, should be conducted by the Acting Persian Secretary, who should report this result, with copy of his proceedings, for the information of Government.

18th February 1839.

(Signed) J. FARISH,
J. A. DUNLOP.

MINUTE BY MR. G. W. ANDERSON,

Dated 18th February 1839.

(Subscribed to by Mr. J. A. Dunlop.)

Minute by M.
G. W. Anderson
18 Feb. 1839

The parties declare, that they are not agents of the Raja, and if the Raja disowns them too, they will find themselves in a very false position in England, if really going there on the Raja's part: and this should be told them, as soon as the Resident reports the result of his communication to the Raja on the subject. But, in this case, if they persist, I imagine these people must be allowed to proceed: certainly, if repudiated by the Raja.

18th February 1839.

(Signed) G. W. ANDERSON,
J. A. DUNLOP.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

*Dated 22d February 1839.*Minute
by the Governor,
22 Feb. 1839.

1. Colonel Ovans's letter of the 18th instant, and the result of the examinations taken by Mr. Boyd, leave no doubt regarding the nature and objects of the mission about to proceed to England on the part of the Raja of Sattara.

2. I am doubtful whether we possess the power of preventing this mission proceeding; I am therefore for non-interference, and allowing them to proceed after having made the usual deposit in the Government Treasury. I think this deposit should be made for the persons in the situation of servants proceeding to Europe, as mentioned in my former minute.

3. The senior Magistrate of Police should require this deposit, and the owner of the *George Cuvier* be informed, that Government will not interfere authoritatively to prevent the parties alluded to by him to embark on board his ship, on the established deposit for Native servants being made.

4. Mr. Boyd should inform the principal persons, that Government are satisfied that, proceeding as they do without the sanction of this Government, they will find themselves mistaken in the expectation, that they will be recognised in any public capacity by her Majesty's Government or the Honourable Court of Directors.

5. The Advocate-General may also be informed of this decision, in case he has any objection to offer to it.

6. Copies of all the papers connected with the subject should be sent to the Secret Committee, with our earnest recommendation, that the mission may not, on its arrival in England, be recognised, either by the Court or by her Majesty's Government. Their instructions may also be solicited, whether such mission should be allowed, or not, to proceed to England.

7. The Secret Committee will determine whether this proceeding is in conformity with the Raja's agreement with Government.

8. For particulars regarding M. ———, we may refer to our despatch dated the ———, regarding that person.

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12. Copies of all these proceedings should be sent to the Governor General of India, who will observe in them, I hope, the increased necessity which exists for bringing the case of the Raja of Sattara to a final termination, with as little delay as possible, and which the recent letter of the Secret Committee, copy of which has been sent to his Lordship, appears to anticipate.

(Signed) JAMES FARISH.

22d February 1839.

MINUTE BY MR. G. W. ANDERSON,

Without date.

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SATTARA
PAPERS.Minute by Mr.
G. W. Anderson
without date

I think it would have been better to have made a direct reference to the Raja, to ask if he was sending these persons to England. It is, perhaps, too late now, as it must be decided at once, if these persons are to go or not. I still think, if proceeding as agents for the Raja, that permission of this Government should have been applied for and obtained; but if it is determined to allow them to proceed, I do not object, and subscribe to the rest of the minute of the Honourable the Governor.

(Signed) G. W. ANDERSON

MINUTE BY MR. J. A. DUNLOP,

*Dated 22d February 1839.*Minute by
Mr. J. A. Dunlop
22 Feb. 1839.

Viewing this as a mission to England, I doubt our power to prevent its going; and though the circumstance of the parties having taken their passages in a ship bound to France might make a difference in this respect, I am still, on the whole, for non-interference.

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(Signed) J. A. DUNLOP

22d February 1839.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

*Dated 22d February 1839.*Minute
by the Governor
22 Feb. 1839.

I find a reference has been made, through the Resident, to the Raja, as to whether the mission is accredited by him; but we need not wait for the reply.

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I have omitted in my minute to notice a circumstance pointed out by Colonel Ovens, *viz.* the identity of the parties forming the present mission with those reported by him in November last as about to be sent; a coincidence which remarkably verifies the intercepted correspondence which he has, from time to time, submitted to Government.

(Signed) JAMES FARISH.

22d February 1839.

SATTARA
PAPERS.Minute by Mr.
J. W. Anderson,
22 Feb. 1839.

MINUTE BY MR. G. W. ANDERSON,

Dated 22d February 1398.

(Subscribed to by Mr. J. A. Dunlop.)

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22d February 1839.

(Signed) G. W. ANDERSON,
J. A. DUNLOP.Minute by
Mr. J. A. Dunlop,
without date.

MINUTE BY MR. J. A. DUNLOP,

Without date.

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(Signed) J. A. DUNLOP.

Minute
by the Governor,
22 Feb. 1839.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Dated 22d February 1839.

(Subscribed to by the Board.)

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22d February 1839.

(Signed) J. FARISH.

Minute
by the Governor,
March 1839.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Dated 1st March 1839.

(Subscribed to by the Board.)

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1st March 1839.

(Signed) J. FARISH.

Minute
by the Board,
without date.

MINUTE BY THE BOARD,

Without Date.

Mr. Elliot should have made the communication directed verbally, and not in writing.

No special intimations are necessary to be given to the Collector of Customs.

This letter may be recorded without further correspondence.

(Signed) J. FARISH.

MINUTE BY MR. G. W. ANDERSON,

Without Date.

I do not think this has been at all well managed, but it is over.

(Signed) G. W. ANDERSON.

SATTAR
PAPERMinute by
G. W. Anderson
without date

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

*Dated 1st March 1839.*Minute
by the Governor
1 March 1839

Copy to be sent to the Governor General, who will particularly notice, that the danger in which Appa Sahib, and those who have given evidence, are placed, is occasioned by the information sent home, having been communicated to his Highness by his correspondents here, derived from parties with whom they are in communication in England.

His Lordship's instructions should be requested, as to the course we should follow, in case of Appa Sahib, the Raja's brother, throwing himself on the Resident's protection, or the Raja molesting any of the other witnesses.

The Resident, in the mean time, to be directed to adopt the most efficient means in his power to afford the protection required, should this contingency arise; but to do his best to ward it off.

My own impression is, that the only real effective course for the protection of Appa Sahib and the others would be, on the Raja's committing any open act of a glaring nature, or such as to endanger the lives of those who have fallen under his Highness's anger for the part they have had in these transactions, would be immediately to place his Highness under restraint, depriving him of all authority, and to place the administration of the affairs of his state in the hands of the Resident, pending the decision of the Governor General or the Honourable Court, to whom the Government of India have referred.

This may, if my Colleagues concur, be suggested to his Lordship.

(Signed) JAMES FARISH.

1st March 1839.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

*Dated 2d March 1839.*Minute.
by the Governor
2 March 1839

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2d March 1839.

(Signed) J. FARISH.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

MINUTE BY MR. G. W. ANDERSON,

*Dated 2d March 1839.*Minute by Mr.
G. W. Anderson,
2 March 1839.

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(Signed) G. W. ANDERSON.

2d March 1839.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR.

*Dated 2d March 1839.*Minute
by the Governor,
2 March 1839.

Mr. Elliot committed a great mistake. On the receipt of our letter, he ought to have communicated the orders of Government to the parties concerned, and he should now lose no time in doing so.

(Signed) JAMES FARISH.

2d March 1839.

MINUTE BY MR. G. W. ANDERSON,

*Without date.*Minute by Mr.
G. W. Anderson,
without date.

Does it not appear from the last intercepted correspondence, that the parties themselves had the intention to withdraw from the passage?

(Signed) G. W. ANDERSON.

MINUTE BY THE BOARD.

*Without date.*Minute
by the Board,
without date.

To be sent to the Governor General and to the Secret Committee, in continuation of the correspondence.

(Signed) JAMES FARISH.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

*Dated 4th March 1839.*Minute
by the Governor,
4 March 1839.

(Subscribed to by the Board.)

I concur with the Resident in opinion, that it is not expedient, at the present moment, to have any thing to say with the persons therein alluded to.

It is by no means unlikely that some intrigue is at the bottom of this petition, and our best plan therefore is, to have nothing to do with the petitioner.

Copy may be sent to the Governor General and Secret Committee, in continuation of former proceedings.

(Signed) J. FARISH,
G. W. ANDERSON,
J. A. DUNLOP.

4th March 1839.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Dated 11th March 1839.

(Subscribed to by the Board.)

The Senior Magistrate of Police may be directed to refer these persons to Government; and it would have evinced greater discretion, had he done so of his own accord in the first instance.

If these persons address us, we should refuse to recognise them as the Raja's agents.

(Signed) J. FARISH.

11th March 1839.

SATTARA
PAPERS.Minute
by the Govern.
11 March 1839

MINUTE BY MR. G. W. ANDERSON,

Without date.

(Subscribed to by Mr. J. A. Dunlop.)

I entirely concur in the views of the Honourable the Governor, on the contingency of his Highness the Raja committing any act of violence or of oppression, against any one of the witnesses who have given evidence in the investigation that has been lately held on his proceedings.

(Signed) G. W. ANDERSON,
J. A. DUNLOP.Minute by M
G. W. Anderson
without date

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Dated 14th March 1839.

(Subscribed to by the Board.)

Copy to be sent to the Governor General and the Secret Committee. In case matters come to an extremity, I think we are bound to insist, that the personal property of the Raja's brother shall not be interfered with; but the instructions recently solicited from the Governor General will, I trust, enable us to act more effectually for his protection.

(Signed) J. FARISH,
G. W. ANDERSON,
J. A. DUNLOP.

14th March 1839.

Minute
by the Governor
14 March 1839

MINUTE BY THE BOARD,

Dated 18th March 1839.

Proceedings approved, and our further information on this subject to be communicated to the Secret Committee.

The Governor General of India to be informed of the intended departure of the mission in the *Reliance*.

(Signed) JAMES FARISH.

18th March 1839.

Minute
by the Board,
18 March 1839

MINUTE BY THE BOARD,

Dated 19th March 1839.

I am not aware that the departure of these persons can be prevented. They have already been informed that they will not be acknowledged in any public character by her Majesty's Government or the Court of Directors.

This should be reported to the Governor General, and the Secret Committee and the Resident.

(Signed) J. FARISH.

19th March 1839.

Minute
by the Board,
19 March 1839

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Board,
20 March 1839.

MINUTE BY THE BOARD,

Dated 20th March 1839.

The Governor General may be requested to favour us with his instructions, whether a communication should not be made to his Highness on the subject of his sending this mission clandestinely to England.

(Signed)

J. FARISH.

20th March 1839.

Minute
by the Governor,
27 March 1839.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Dated 27th March 1839.

(Concurred in by Mr. G. W. Anderson.)

The Resident may be referred to our recent orders, which seem to meet this event. He should, of course, afford all the protection in his power to the Raja's brother.

Copy may be sent to the Governor General, and his early instructions solicited.

27th March 1839.

(Signed)

J. FARISH.

Minute
by the Governor,
30 March 1839.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Dated 30th March 1839.

(Subscribed to by Mr. G. W. Anderson.)

Copy to be sent to the Governor General, in continuation of the former correspondence. The Resident's advice regarding Secbundy was very proper.

The Governor General's orders should be solicited, as to what arrangements should be made for the support of the Raja's brother. He has, hitherto, received an allowance of 6,000 rupees per mensem, which should, I think, be continued by the Raja.

(Signed)

J. FARISH,

G. W. ANDERSON.

30th March 1839.

Minute
by the Governor,
19 June 1839.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Dated 19th June 1839.

The differences between the Raja of Sattara and the British Government have been so fully investigated, and the facts connected with them so fully brought to notice by my predecessor in office and my present Colleagues, that it is quite unnecessary now to enter into any minute review of them. I think it has been clearly established, that the Raja has for years carried on an irregular and unwarranted intercourse with the Portuguese authorities at Goa; that he has intrigued with Appa Sahib, the ex-Raja of Nagpore; and that he has countenanced and supported attempts to seduce from their allegiance certain Native soldiers in the service of the British Government.

The first and second of these only are clear breaches of the treaty by which the Raja of Sattara is bound; for he is restrained from any intercourse with foreign powers, and with all persons whatever who are not by the treaty subjected to his Highness's authority. The third is an equally clear violation of the duty which states professing relations of amity owe to each other.

No

No doubt existing as to the facts, or to the disposition which they indicate, the question arises, how are we to deal with the case ! There are apparently but three modes of meeting it :—

1st. By subjecting the Raja to a formal trial, and after inquiry made and sentence passed, visiting him with appropriate punishment.

2dly. By proceeding in the mode by which national wrongs are ordinarily redressed, by at once commencing hostile operations, taking possession of the Raja's territories, and acting as circumstances may justify under the right of conquest.

3dly. By addressing to the Raja such remonstrance as may appear expedient, and passing over his past offences, in the hope that the exercise of clemency may give rise to better feelings.

The difficulties in the way of the course first referred to appear to me very great. There is no ordinary tribunal to which the Raja could be made amenable, and a special one must be organized, for the purpose of investigating the charges against him if they are to be investigated.

A commission has been proposed, and the expediency has been suggested, of selecting its members from the other Presidencies, excluding altogether persons serving under this Government. I think that, proceeding to subject the Raja to trial by a commission would be a course very much open to suspicion and misrepresentation, however that commission might be constituted. I know that, from the civil and military services of India, there would be no difficulty whatever in selecting Commissioners who would perform their duty without regard to any thing but justice ; but I need not add, that in the conduct of states, as of individuals, it is most important not only to avoid wrong, but to make this avoidance apparent, and to place the character of the state for integrity and good faith beyond the possibility of question.

For this reason, I should desire, if practicable, to avoid the trial of an issue, in which the British Government is a party, before a tribunal which must, of necessity, be composed of its own servants.

Indeed, the competency of such a tribunal might, with some plausibility, be questioned ; because, by assuming the power of subjecting the Raja to a legal trial, we should seem to determine that he was a subject of the British Government, whereas we have always acknowledged him as a sovereign Prince, bound only by the terms of the treaty existing between us. I observe, indeed, that in a very able and careful minute recorded by one of my Colleagues, the conduct of the Raja, in intriguing with the Government of Goa and with Appa Sahib, is termed treasonous. I am not disposed to enter into a discussion upon the point ; but it is certain, that the crime of treason can be perpetrated only where the relation of sovereign and subject exists.

It would seem also, that if the Raja could be charged with treason on account of the acts which gave rise to the first and second charges, he is guilty of the same offence under the third. The attempt of a subject to seduce the soldiers of his sovereign from their duty is undoubtedly treasonable, and it is only the absence of the requisite relation which changes the character of the offence. This point would, I fear, be taken up by all who have any feeling of hostility to the British Government. We should be accused of degrading a sovereign from his acknowledged rank, of offering violence to his feelings and dignity, and of assuming a right of superiority to which we have no just claim. It is not necessary to ask, whether these charges would be well or ill founded : it is sufficient that they would be made ; and without necessity, the British Government ought not, in my judgment, to incur them.

Such a commission as has been recommended would appear inexpedient, unless we were quite certain of the result ; for if the inquiry should terminate in acquittal, we should lose something in point of character, while the Raja would be little benefited. A prince suspended from his sovereignty and put upon his trial, even though acquitted, would be irreparably injured in the estimation of his subjects. He would command little respect from them, when they saw with how little consideration he was treated by his ally.

But it may fairly be assumed, that there can be no doubt as to the subject of inquiry, and upon this ground it is unnecessary. No information, beyond that which we possess, is likely to be gained. The commission would only

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
of the Governor,
19 June 1839.

tend to prolong a state of uncertainty and irritation, which has continued quite long enough already, and would, in this point of view, be a source of mischief.

If unfriendly steps were inevitable, I should much prefer the second course of proceeding to which I have referred. I should prefer taking the remedy provided in the treaty in case of the Raja's breach of his engagements, and resuming the territories committed to his care. But this is an extreme measure, and should not be resorted to without an absolute necessity. Such necessity I do not conceive to exist.

The Raja of Sattara cannot be regarded as a very formidable foe to the British empire, and those with whom he has been connected are as little formidable as himself. No results have followed the intrigues which have been carried on, except the transfer of money to agents and adventurers, by whom the intrigues have, without doubt, been fomented; by whom they have, perhaps, been originated for their own purposes. Without intending to offer any apology for the conduct of the Raja, it is but just to observe, that he appears to have been regarded by that numerous class of men who are continually watching for an opportunity to enrich themselves at the expense of others, as one whose position offered a very favourable opportunity for their experiments. He has manifested great weakness and no inconsiderable portion of ingratitude; but it would not accord with the magnanimity of the British Government to visit those offences on a prince, situated as is the Raja, with too great severity. He is altogether at our mercy, and the execution of an order to dispossess him of his territories would scarcely be a more difficult work than to sign such an order. He is the representative of a house distinguished in the history of India, and associated in the minds of the people with much of interest. We have nothing to fear, and we can afford to act with generosity.

Under these circumstances, I must admit that, with the highest respect as well for the motives as for the arguments of those who have taken a different view, I decidedly prefer the milder course of proceeding, of the three which I have pointed out as before us.

I propose, therefore, either that the Resident be instructed to assure the Raja of the desire of the British Government to maintain the relations of friendship with him, to point out the necessity of restraining his servants from entering into any measures which may subject his Highness to the imputation of disregarding his engagements, and from retaining in his Highness's name, or otherwise, the political services of any persons beyond the limits of his dominion; or that I should, in person, communicate with the Raja; which latter, I am inclined to think, would be a preferable course. His Highness possibly might be more readily induced to give attention to the demands we are bound to make on him (and which I propose that we separately take into consideration) when directly preferred by the head of this Government, rather than by the agency of the Resident or any other subordinate authority. In the event of the Board concurring with me in the line of policy I recommend, and in the probable advantage which may accrue from my visiting the Raja, I shall be prepared to proceed to Sattara, upon receiving the sanction of the Governor General to the policy I have suggested.

In the meantime I need scarcely say, that our intentions with respect to the Raja should not be suffered to divulge until the intimation of them is made by myself, and that we should do all in our power to discourage the agitation which has been kept up in the name of the Raja.

(Signed) J. R. CARNAC.

19th June 1839.

MINUTE BY MR. JAMES FARISH,

*Dated 19th June 1839.*SATTAR
PAPERMinute by
Mr. James F.
19 June 1839

In the earlier proceedings I have already recorded my opinion on the course which should be preserved towards the Raja of Sattara. The Honourable the Secret Committee having, however, expressly referred the decision of this perplexing case to our present Governor, who I presume to be in possession of the sentiments of the home authorities upon it, and Sir James Carnac having proposed to the Board the extremely lenient course explained in his minute of this date, which has just been read, I consider it my duty to accede to that course; and feeling most desirous that the questions pending with regard to his Highness should be brought as early as possible to a close, and himself placed in a position which may give security for his acting up to the full spirit of the treaty with him for the future, I have only to assure the Honourable the Governor, that it is my cordial wish and intention to support the measure he has submitted; and in the further prosecution of the details to endeavour, as far as may be in my power, to aid in rendering the same effectual.

(Signed) J. FARISH.

19th June 1839.

MINUTE BY MR. G. W. ANDERSON,

*Dated 19th June 1839.*Minute by
G. W. Ander
19 June 1839

I have only, under the like circumstances, to record the assurance of my desire cordially to support, and effectually to aid the Honourable the Governor, in carrying through the policy he has declared he thinks ought to be pursued towards the Raja of Sattara.

Satisfied of the treachery of the Raja, I from the first thought that no middle course could be taken, but that he must either be deposed or entirely forgiven. The latter course being determined upon, it seems only necessary, in carrying it through with all faith, to warn the Raja for the future, to lay down some principles in the spirit of requiring a more strict adherence to the treaty, and effectually to protect those through whose information the Raja's intrigues were brought to light.

It appears to me, that all this, and whatever else is immediately called for, is effectually guarded by the different measures which the Honourable the Governor has proposed, and to which, it does not occur to me at the present moment, that any thing is required to be added, to carry through safely the policy that has been resolved upon.

(Signed) G. W. ANDERSON.

19th June 1839.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

*Dated 20th June 1839.*Minute
by the Govern
20 June 1839

1. In continuation of my minute of yesterday's date, I now beg to submit to the Board my views regarding the mode in which I think our intentions towards the Raja of Sattara should be carried into effect.

2. It will not be consistent with our proposed amnesty for the past, to make any demand which can justly be regarded as a punishment; and, under this impression, I at once abandon the measure which appears to have been thought of by the Government of the late Sir Robert Grant, of requiring the Raja to maintain a contingent of horse for the service of the British Government.

3. Our

SATTARA
PAPERS.Minute
of the Governor,
20 June 1839.

3. Our demands should be limited as much as possible, and should be confined only to those which will again place the Raja in the precise situation intended by the treaty of September 1819, and will ensure the most efficient protection to all persons who have been obnoxious to him, in consequence of the part they have taken in recent proceedings.

4. Before proceeding to Sattara, I shall cause a letter to be prepared to the Raja's address, embodying the sentiments which Government entertain of his conduct, and the requisitions which we deem it essential to make, in order to ensure his future adherence to his engagements, and to promote peace and concord between the two Governments. The latter may ultimately be embodied in a formal engagement to be required from the Raja.

5. The following is what I conceive should be the substance of my address to his Highness the Raja.

1st. That, after a careful and attentive perusal and consideration of the evidence, it is my painful duty to inform him, that I entertain no doubt whatever that his irregular and unwarrantable communications with the Goa authorities during a series of years, his intrigues with Appa Sahib the ex-Raja of Nagpore, and the countenance and support which he gave to the attempt to seduce from their allegiance certain Native officers in the service of the British Government, have been fully proved.

2d. That these proceedings indicate that his Highness, unmindful of the great benefits which he has derived from the Honourable Company, has entertained hostile designs towards their Government, at a time when he was openly professing to be on the most intimate terms of friendship and alliance.

3d. That by these acts he has most justly incurred the penalty prescribed in his treaty with Government, namely, the forfeiture of all the rights and possessions which that conferred upon him.

4th. That, nevertheless, the British Government has resolved to overlook his past misconduct, and to grant an amnesty on the following conditions:—

1st. That his Highness shall promise carefully and scrupulously to adhere to the 5th article of his treaty with Government, dated the 25th September 1819, and explicitly understand, that any future infraction thereof will be followed by the penalty annexed to that article, namely, “the loss of all the advantages” secured to him by the treaty.

N.B.—The article itself may be embodied in the agreement to be taken from the Raja.

2d. That his Highness shall moreover engage to act in conformity with all the other provisions of the said treaty, but more especially the second article, whereby he is bound to “be guided in all matters “by the advice of the British Agent at his Highness's Court, and to “hold his territory in subordinate co-operation with the British “Government.”

3d. That the seventh article of the treaty be strictly attended to, and that his Highness engage to refer all matters in dispute between him and the Jagheerdars, therein named, to the British Government, and to submit to their decision.

4th. That, if possible, a reconciliation should be effected between his Highness and his brother, Appa Sahib; but that, should this be found impracticable, that the latter shall be at liberty to reside wherever he pleases, under the protection of the British Government, with the same allowance for his support as he has heretofore received from the Sattara Government.

N.B.—The attempt at reconciliation may be made on the Governor's arrival at Sattara.

5th. That all persons now in confinement on account of the Sattara intrigues be forthwith released; but that the undermentioned persons

persons shall henceforward be excluded from the Raja's counsels, and be prohibited from residing within the Sattara territory, without the sanction of the British Government.

N.B.—The Resident should at once be required to submit the names of the persons who he thinks should be comprehended in this article, being informed it is the desire of Government that the number should be limited, as much as possible, and that individuals of minor consideration should be excluded.

6th. That the Raja shall engage not to injure or molest, in any way, the persons or families of those who have taken part in the proceedings against him, and shall promise to continue to them all property, rights, privileges, and allowances, which they enjoyed in July 1836. The names of the persons comprehended in this article are as follows. They are to be considered under the special guarantee of the British Government.

N.B.—The Resident can alone frame this list, restricting it as much as possible, and stating in detail the reasons why each person's name is inserted.

6. I believe the above to contain all the stipulations which, on the principles we are resolved to pursue, are essentially necessary; but I shall be happy to consider any others which my Colleagues may desire to propose.

7th. I find that there are various subjects of discussion on minor points between the two Governments, the consideration of which has been postponed pending the final disposal of the Raja's case; such, for instance, as the transit duty question, the admission of the Company's rupee into the Raja's territories, and some claims affecting individuals.

8. It appears to me, however, inexpedient to mix up these questions in the present discussion. When I proceed to Sattara I can take these proceedings with me, and I shall probably be able to adjust these minor matters, either in direct communications with the Raja or through the Resident.

9. In conclusion, I deem it necessary to refer to a possible, though I hope not probable, issue to the attempt we are about to make, to re-establish our relations at Sattara on a friendly footing. The Raja, either from misappreciating our motives, or from relying on the influence which he may fancy he has established, by means of the numerous agents he has employed, both in England and in India, may refuse to accept our proffered clemency, boldly assert his innocence, and challenge inquiry. I am not prepared, at this moment, to state the precise course which should be followed under such a contingency; but, in order to avoid the delay of another reference to the Governor General of India, I think the possibility of its occurrence should be pointed out, and his Lordship's sentiments solicited, as to the course we should then pursue.

10. In carrying into effect these measures, I shall do all in my power to convince his Highness of the serious errors into which he has been betrayed, in friendly and considerate language; but, on the other hand, I shall be firm in my endeavours to convince his Highness, that nothing can induce Government to recede from the very lenient terms on which we are willing to cast an oblivion over the past.

11. In my former minute I referred to the necessity of secrecy, as perhaps essential to the success of our plans; and, to ensure this, I would now propose, that these proceedings may not be formally recorded, until the Governor General has replied to the reference to be made to him.

(Signed) J. R. CARNAC.

20th June 1839.

SATTARA.
PAPERS

Minute
by the Governor
20 June 1839

SATTARA
PAPERS.

MINUTE BY MR. JAMES FARISH,

*Dated 21st June 1839.*Minute by
Mr. James Farish,
21 June 1839.

I have nothing to add to the measures here proposed, in which I concur.

(Signed) J. FARISH.

21st June 1839.

Minute by Mr.
G. W. Anderson,
21 June 1839.

MINUTE BY MR. G. W. ANDERSON,

Dated 21st June 1839.

I quite concur in these measures consequent upon the line of policy determined upon.

(Signed) G. W. ANDERSON.

21st June 1839.

Minute
by the Governor,
22 June 1839.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Dated 22d June 1839.

Since I recorded my opinion of the course which I would recommend to be pursued with the Raja of Sattara, we have received the despatch from the Secretary of Government with the Governor General, transmitting for our information copies of the minutes of the Council of India, who unanimously consider that the guilt of the Raja justly subjects him to the penalty of deposition.

The perusal of these opinions have not made any change in the sentiments I entertain of the expediency, on the grounds I have stated in my minute of the 19th instant, of extending to the Raja the clemency of Government, under the conditions set forth in my further minute of the 20th instant.

The guilt of the Raja of Sattara, in the three instances brought against him, has been proved by unquestionable evidence; but when we consider the extravagance of his intrigues, the utter impotency of those with whom he conspired, and his own political insignificance, it would be more becoming the character of the British Government to overlook his past misconduct, than to proceed to the extremity of his deposition, and the annexation of his territories to our dominions. I am not of opinion, that the downfall of the Raja would meet with no public sympathy. Neither his dependant position, his limited resources, nor his personal character, would be considered by the people as rendering him in any degree formidable to us, and we should rather be exposed to the imputation of being ready, on any pretext, to aggrandize ourselves by adding to our territory, than that the extinction of the Sattara principality was deemed an act essential to our political security.

It will now rest with the Governor General in Council to determine on the steps which are to be taken in this long pending and perplexing case.

(Signed) J. R. CARNAC.

22d June 1839.

Minute by Mr.
J. Farish and Mr.
G. W. Anderson,
22 June 1839.

MINUTE BY MR. JAMES FARISH AND MR. G. W. ANDERSON,

Dated 22d June 1839.

The result of the reference to the Governor General should be awaited.

(Signed) J. FARISH.

22d June 1839.

G. W. ANDERSON.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Dated 24th July 1839.

(Concurred in by the Board.)

SATTARA
PAPER.Minute
by the Govern-
24 July 18

1. In reply to his letter, I think, Captain Cogan should be informed, that Government consider it very undesirable that he should proceed on a visit to the Raja of Sattara, and recommends that he abstain from all intercourse and communication with his Highness or any of his agents.

2. Government is now, as it has always been, ready to receive any representation which his Highness may desire to make through the usual channel, the British Resident stationed at Sattara.

3. In reference to the postscript of Captain Cogan's letter, the letter should be returned. It is not necessary for us to open this letter.

4. The first and third paragraphs of this minute should be communicated to Captain Cogan.

(Signed) J. R. CARNAC.

24th July 1839.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

*Dated 4th September 1839.*Minute
by the Govern-
4 Sept. 1839

1. I now proceed to lay before the Board my proceedings during my recent visit to Sattara, premising with a brief review of the measures adopted in connection with the case of the Raja subsequent to the 1st June last, the date on which I assumed charge of the Government of this Presidency.

2. This case has been now under discussion for more than three years, and, under instructions from the Home Authorities, a final decision was delayed until my arrival in this country. It therefore immediately engaged my most earnest attention, and, from the first, I resolved to make a determined effort to rescue the Raja from the dangerous position in which he had placed himself, not only because I am impressed with the conviction, that we should gain in reputation by extending mercy and forgiveness to him, but also because, on principle, I cordially concur with the many excellent men who are of opinion, that it is good policy to uphold and maintain the Native states of India by all means.

3. For an exposition of my views on this case, I must refer to my minute dated the 19th June. In this I felt no hesitation, after a most studied examination of the whole evidence, in recording, that the Raja's guilt has been established on the three principal charges advanced against him. I shall only here add, that a subsequent reconsideration of the evidence, the peculiar circumstances under which it was obtained, the impossibility of concert among the witnesses, an inspection of the original documents which have come into our possession, and my own observations since my arrival in the Deccan, have left not a shadow of doubt in my mind respecting the accuracy of my first convictions at Bombay.

4. Following this admission, I discussed in the same minute three different modes in which, it occurred to me, the case might be disposed of, namely: 1st, by placing the Raja on his trial; 2d, by summarily deposing him for his violations of the treaty, and annexing his territories to our own; 3d, by granting an amnesty for the past under certain conditions. I also recorded my objections to the two first of these courses, and my reasons for urging the adoption of the last, intimating my readiness to proceed in person to Sattara, and to endeavour to carry it into effect.

5. Both

SATTARA
PAPERS.Minute
by the Govern-
4 Sept. 1839.

12. To proceed. The letter from the Deputy Secretary in attendance on the Governor General, dated the 11th July, conveyed to this Government the Governor General's sanction to the amnesty proposed to be extended to the Raja; to the conditions under which I suggested it should be granted; and to my proceeding in person to Sattara, for the purpose of carrying my views into effect, and again to place our relations with the Raja on a friendly footing. On this occasion it was observed: "His Lordship feels it unnecessary to enter into any review of this case. He has already avowed his opinion, that whether led by malignity or folly, or a weak subserviency to bad advisers, the Raja has committed acts which might justly forfeit for him all the favour of the British Government, and justify a sentence of severe retribution. He sees all the embarrassments which might arise out of a formal trial; he feels the strong objections which would be urged in quarters of the highest authority against a summary act of extreme severity, and he is compelled to acknowledge the expediency of the milder course proposed, and would indulge the hope, that the exercise of clemency may give rise, if not to better feelings, at least to more guarded conduct." His Lordship was also pleased to concur with me in opinion, that the amnesty should not be accompanied by any demands of a penal nature; but observed, that "warnings might be made for the future, principles laid down for the more strict observance of the treaty, and, above all things, effectual protection should be secured to those who, in the course of the late inquiry, may, by having afforded information, be assumed to have given offence to the Raja. With this expression of his views, his Lordship cordially assents to the propositions laid down by the Governor of Bombay in his minute of June 20th, and adopted by his Colleagues."

13. I lost no time, after the receipt of this letter, in proceeding to Poona, where I arrived on the 29th July. I now deemed it expedient to send for the Resident, not only that I might have an opportunity of explaining to him personally the course of procedure I intended to follow on my arrival at Sattara, but likewise to obtain from him the latest information of the actual state of affairs at that place.

14. Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens accordingly visited me at Dapoonce on the 11th, and remained with me until the 15th ultimo, on which date he returned to Sattara, with directions to communicate to the Raja, in writing, my intention to proceed in a few days to the same place, for the purpose of arranging matters of great importance to his Highness's future interests, and that I hoped he would receive me in the same spirit of cordiality and friendship which I felt towards him personally.

15. I shall not anticipate the narrative of my proceedings, by detailing the arrangements which were finally determined on in communication with the Resident. I have elsewhere* recorded the very high sense I entertain of the cordial co-operation and the valuable information which I received from this able and intelligent officer, who entered into my views with perfect honesty and sincerity, and throughout exerted himself to the utmost to render them successful.

16. It has been usual when former Governors have visited Sattara, that they should be received with great pomp and state by the Raja. Our friendly relations with the Raja having been for the last three years virtually suspended, the observance of these forms appeared to me to be inconsistent, until our relations were again placed on an amicable footing. Being anxious, however, to avoid any thing that would irritate, I directed the Resident to apprise the Raja, that as it was my intention to travel *dak* express from Poona to Sattara, and that as the time of my arrival would, in consequence, be uncertain, it was my desire that the usual official ceremonies might be dispensed with on the occasion of my visit, which was accordingly done.

17. I reached Sattara on the 22d ultimo, and was accompanied by the Honourable Mr. Anderson, the Political and Military Secretaries to Govern-
ment,

* Letter to Colonel Ovens, dated 30th August 1839.

12. To proceed. The letter from the Deputy Secretary in attendance on the Governor General, dated the 11th July, conveyed to this Government the Governor General's sanction to the amnesty proposed to be extended to the Raja; to the conditions under which I suggested it should be granted; and to my proceeding in person to Sattara, for the purpose of carrying my views into effect, and again to place our relations with the Raja on a friendly footing. On this occasion it was observed; "His Lordship feels it unnecessary to enter into any review of this case. He has already avowed his opinion, that whether led by malignity or folly, or a weak subserviency to bad advisers, the Raja has committed acts which might justly forfeit for him all the favour of the British Government, and justify a sentence of severe retribution. He sees all the embarrassments which might arise out of a formal trial; he feels the strong objections which would be urged in quarters of the highest authority against a summary act of extreme severity, and he is compelled to acknowledge the expediency of the milder course proposed, and would indulge the hope, that the exercise of clemency may give rise, if not to better feelings, at least to more guarded conduct." His Lordship was also pleased to concur with me in opinion, that the amnesty should not be accompanied by any demands of a penal nature; but observed, that "warnings might be made for the future, principles laid down for the more strict observance of the treaty, and, above all things, effectual protection should be secured to those who, in the course of the late inquiry, may, by having afforded information, be assumed to have given offence to the Raja. With this expression of his views, his Lordship cordially assents to the propositions laid down by the Governor of Bombay in his minute of June 20th, and adopted by his Colleagues."

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* Letter to Colonel Ovens, dated 30th August 1839.

SATTARA
PAPERS.Minute
of the Governor,
4 Sept. 1839.

ment, the officers composing my personal staff, and a small escort of Native infantry and irregular cavalry. It has been to me a source of the highest satisfaction to have had the benefit and advantage of Mr. Anderson's counsels and experience, not only when communicating, in the first instance, with the Resident, but likewise during all the painful discussions which afterwards ensued at Sattara; and it is a relief to my mind to know, that every step I have taken has met with his general acquiescence. My esteemed Colleague having been obliged to proceed to the Deccan on account of his health, cheerfully rendered me this assistance, and at considerable personal inconvenience accompanied me to Sattara; and I here gladly record the grateful sense I entertain of the valuable and extensive aid which he has afforded to me, and I trust that, on his return to the Presidency, he will do me the favour to record his impressions, derived from his own personal observation of these proceedings generally.

18. During my residence at Sattara I had three personal interviews with the Raja at the Residency; and, during the same period, the Resident, by my desire, visited the Raja four times at his Palace. Notes of all these conferences were recorded at the time; and, in order that my superiors may have full information of all that occurred on each occasion, I shall record these notes consecutively, and offer such observations as may seem necessary in elucidation of what occurred.

Resident's first interview with the Raja, 23d August.

This was simply to invite his Highness to a personal conference, and to inform him that, in my discussions with his Highness, I proposed communicating with him direct, and altogether to exclude Native agency. For the Resident's report of this interview I beg to refer to Appendix A. 1, to this minute.

Raja's first interview with the Governor, 23d August.

The Raja came to the Residency accompanied by a small retinue. The interview was strictly private. No one was present on the part of his Highness; for, by his own request, the only person who came with him was ordered to leave. Mr. Anderson, Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans, and Mr. Wilmoughby, were present throughout this conference.

I commenced by informing the Raja, that I had anxiously and carefully considered the whole of the proceedings in his case, and had, in common with all other authorities to whom they had been submitted, become fully satisfied that, misled by evil counsellors and low and interested advisers, he had, on three occasions, manifested hostile intentions towards the British Government. I reminded his Highness of the peculiar circumstances under which he was rescued from captivity, and invested by the British Government with the sovereignty over his present dominions: that this was a pure act of generosity on the part of the English Government, not founded in any right of possession, since, owing to the unprovoked hostilities of the Peishwa, the whole of the Deccan had become ours by conquest, but simply from a feeling of consideration and compassion to himself and family, as the representatives of a fallen but once powerful dynasty: that his Highness must be aware that, by the conduct he had pursued, he had forfeited all the advantages which he had derived from the Treaty of 1819, and in virtue of which he became the head of the Sattara state: that, notwithstanding, the British Government were willing, on certain conditions, to bury the past in oblivion, and that, at considerable personal inconvenience, I had come in person to Sattara, to endeavour to rescue himself and family from impending ruin. I informed the Raja that I was his sincere friend, and anxiously desired to effect such an arrangement as would restore friendly relations between the two states. Finally, I recalled to his recollection the warning long ago given to him by his friend, Mr. Elphinstone, against placing his trust and confidence in Vakeels and low and intriguing agents, and earnestly urged him to discard from his counsels the numerous agencies he had established, and entreated him not to throw away this

SATTARA
PAPERS.Minute
by the Govern-
4 Sept. 185-

the only opportunity which could be afforded to him, for becoming reconciled to the British Government; for that, he might rest assured, however much his agents might endeavour to persuade him to the contrary, that I had come invested with full powers to decide finally on all pending questions, and that the terms which I should offer to him had already been submitted to, and approved of by, the Governor General of India, and that the Home Authorities had placed the settlement of all these questions in my hands, consequently he might fully depend upon my having been vested with full powers.

During this address, which I delivered firmly but in conciliatory language, the Raja evinced a considerable degree of impatience, and frequently interrupted me by abrupt declarations that he had committed no breach of alliance. When I had concluded, he stated, that he regarded me as his friend and well-wisher; asserted, that the accusations against him originated in the intrigues of his enemies; that as long as the British Government entertained the idea that he had cherished hostile designs he could agree to nothing, but this idea being removed, he would agree to any thing I proposed; that he would consent to any thing, except to abandon his religion or to acknowledge that he had been our enemy; that he would receive my conditions, reply to them, and vindicate his conduct generally. Finally he observed, that if I had not leisure to attend to him personally, he could communicate what he had to say through the Resident.

In reply to this, I repeated my former observations, and said that I had come not to prolong, but to terminate these discussions, which had now occupied a space of three years, and which had ended in satisfying the highest Authorities, that his Highness had repeatedly violated the terms of the treaty he had entered into with the British Government; that, had I come to Sattara to inflict the penalty incurred by these violations of the Treaty of 1819, further inquiry might perhaps have been considered expedient, but that as I had come to overlook, and not to punish, this was quite unnecessary. The case, moreover, against his Highness having been established by a chain of evidence, both oral and documentary, which from the manner and circumstances under which it was obtained could not, in my opinion, by any possibility be materially shaken by any other evidence, and all that I should require from his Highness was, that henceforward he would act strictly and in good faith according to treaty with the British Government, and assent to two or three other conditions rendered necessary by the detection of his misconduct. These observations were at intervals supported by Mr. Anderson, who informed the Raja, that the evidence produced against him was so strong and convincing, that the highest Authorities in India had, without exception, concurred in thinking, that the penalty prescribed in the fifth article of the Treaty should be enforced against him, and that he strongly advised his Highness to attend to the friendly suggestions of the Governor, who had come to Sattara to give him a second time the raj which he had justly forfeited.

It was with deep mortification and regret that I remarked that these observations produced no effect whatever on his Highness. In order, therefore, that he might at once become fully apprised of all the conditions of the proposed amnesty, I deemed it advisable to put into his hands a Mahratta memorandum, in which they had been embodied. Having perused this, and apparently with great earnestness, the Raja returned the memorandum, and at once said he would not agree to my conditions, asking me to mention what violations of the Treaty he had been guilty of. He was then informed, that three important violations of the Treaty had been proved against him:—

- 1st. Of the fifth article, in having, during a series of years, held improper communications with the Goa authorities.
- 2d. Of the same article, in having held a clandestine intercourse with Appa Sahib, the ex-Raja of Nagpore.
- 3d. Of having tampered with the Native officers of the 23d Regiment of Native Infantry.

The only observation made by his Highness related to the second of these charges, and was very remarkable. My conviction being, that the Raja felt
at

SATTARA
PAPERS.Minute
by the Governor,
4 Sept. 1839.

at the moment conscious of his guilt, I had stated, that some of Appa Sahib's original letters had fallen into the hands of the British Government, and inquired whether he could deny the fact of those letters having been sent to him. He did not deny, as would have been natural on the supposition of innocence, but evaded a direct answer by observing, that "The circumstance of receiving letters did not constitute guilt on the part of him who received them. A letter from a person does not establish guilt against the party to whom it is addressed. Where are my answers? There is Mr. Anderson: he may receive a letter; but this would be no proof that he answered it, or that he committed any fault in receiving it."

I closed this conference by informing the Raja, that the Resident would wait on him the following day, with a correct written statement of the conditions on which friendly relations between the two states could alone be restored, and that his Highness would be required to sign these, as a supplement of the Treaty of 1819. The Raja assented to receive the Resident; and when he was about to take leave, I again earnestly exhorted him seriously to reflect on the consequences of his rejecting the very moderate terms offered for his acceptance, to discard the crowd of interested agents now in his confidence, and warned him that, if he rejected my terms, he could only blame himself for whatever might be the result. On stepping into his carriage, the Raja made a kind of apology for the discussion he had occasioned; but turning towards the Resident, and looking at the paper of conditions which he had returned to the Resident, he observed: "*Yeh Kaghu: oopur toonko izar howengee;*" which was interpreted to signify a threat, that he (the Resident) would be injured on account of that paper.

A very considerable change occurred in the Raja's manner and demeanour towards the end of this interview. When we first met he was cheerful, and embraced me and all the gentlemen present with apparent cordiality. As the debate progressed, however, and more particularly towards the close, he became sullen and gloomy, and spoke but little, and it seemed that he had, for the time, entirely lost command over his feelings. From the result of this, my first interview, I almost despaired of accomplishing the object of my visit to Sattara.

Resident's second interview with the Raja, 24th August.

Colonel Ovens this day visited the Raja, to deliver the paper of conditions signed by myself. I instructed him to entreat his Highness carefully to consider these terms and the inevitable consequences of his rejecting them, and to inform him that I required that he should either accept or refuse them in my presence, without unnecessary delay. If, as my information led me to expect, the Raja declined, and expressed a desire to come at once to the residency and intimate his decision, I instructed the Resident not to oppose his wishes; but that, if he expressed any desire to delay his final answer, with the object of affording him time for further reflection, I requested Colonel Ovens to suggest, that our next interview should be deferred until Monday the 26th. The Resident was also directed, at the termination of his interview, distinctly to inform the Raja, that the terms offered were final; and, as a friend and well-wisher both of himself and family, again earnestly to entreat his Highness to reflect on the consequences of his rejecting them, namely, that thereby the alliance between the two Governments would be dissolved. For particulars of what occurred at this interview, I beg to refer to the Resident's notes, marked A. No. 2, appended to this minute.

Raja's second interview with the Governor, 24th August.

At this conference the same gentlemen were present as at the first. After a few preliminary remarks, I observed, that I was exceedingly sorry to understand, that the Raja still persevered in his resolution not to accept the proffered amnesty on the lenient terms proposed; and again informed him, that these terms were final, and that the consequences of rejecting them would be fatal to his interests. His Highness's reply was much to the same purport as that made to the Resident, and was an unqualified refusal. With reference to

SATTARA
PAPERS.Minute
by the Governor
4 Sept. 1899.

to the first condition, he said he never would sign it; adding, that he had positively declined to sign the original treaty from which it was taken, three separate times. With regard to the second condition, he stated, he had no objection to offer; and, in respect to the third, the Chitnavacs was nothing to him; but, in regard to the fourth and last condition, although he had no intention to injure the persons alluded to, he never would sign the guarantee on their behalf.

I again exhorted his Highness to change his resolution, and asked him what confidence could be placed in his future intentions, when he absolutely refused to re-enter into an article of the treaty by which *he was already bound*, or in his professions of a determination not to injure the witnesses against him, when he declined to disavow in writing an intention of this kind. I was supported in my argument by Mr. Anderson, who entreated his Highness to take warning by the fate of the ex-Peishwa Bajee Row, which had passed under his own observation. To this remark the Raja observed, that his road, and that followed by Bajee Row, were different. On which Mr. Anderson replied, that the two roads, though different, might come to the same end, and that similar consequences would result in both instances.

The Raja's further remarks were of a very desultory nature. In allusion to his agents, he said he never consulted any one, but acted entirely for himself. He said, that he was aware the British Government was just, and had no desire to obtain possession of the territory which it had originally bestowed on him, but that he was willing to resign it into their hands. He admitted, that he had incurred considerable expenses, a detailed account of which was in his possession. He said, he was innocent of what he was accused, and that he had proved the Soobaḍars to be false, by Colonel Lodwick's own admission. Finally, the conference ended on the understanding, that the Raja had definitively rejected the amnesty on the terms offered.

Resident's third interview with the Raja, 25th August.

Late last night the Raja sent a message to the Resident, requesting that he would meet him early the following morning. My hopes were raised, that this indicated that his Highness had changed his mind; but having, in the interim, resolved on the course which I should pursue in the event of these hopes being disappointed, I authorized Colonel Ovens distinctly to apprise the Raja, that in the event of continued refusal on his part of my terms, I was determined to depose and remove him from Sattara, and proclaim his brother as his successor. I beg to refer to the Resident's notes of this interview, A. No. 3, appended to this minute, from which it will be seen, that no change having taken place in the Raja's intentions, a communication to the effect I had ordered was made to him, but failed to produce any effect.

Raja's third and last interview with the Governor, 26th August.

My hopes were again excited, by receiving a message from the Raja, signifying his desire to visit me at the Residency, to which I immediately assented. He came about an hour afterwards, and after a few complimentary observations, he requested a private interview, to which I agreed. Accompanied only by Mr. Anderson, we retired to a private room; and after a short time, at the Raja's request, the Resident was soon after desired to join in the conference which ensued. His Highness then said, that the object of his visit was to give me certain papers which he held in his hand. I asked him what was the nature of their contents, and whether he would not personally explain them to me. He replied, that this was not necessary, but that he wished me to look at them, and judge for myself. After a few more observations to the same effect, the Raja invited me to visit him at his *warrah*;^{*} to which I replied, that I should be most happy to accept his invitation, and to restore all the former relations of amity and friendship, provided he would follow my advice, and accept and sign the amnesty tendered to him. I added an expression of my hope, that I might still have the opportunity of visiting him at

the

^{*} House or palace.

SATTARA
PAPERS.Minute
by the Governor,
4 Sept. 1839.

the Dussera festival in the month of October, by his compliance with my wishes on the present occasion. I urged the necessity of compliance by every argument that occurred to me. I pointed out, that the conditions proposed were of the most moderate description; that I had ventured to depart from the stern orders of the Government of India, with the view of preserving him; and that, unless he signed the conditions, no confidence could be reposed upon him for the future. In conclusion, I asked his Highness to state what particular part of the terms he objected to; and, from the tenor of his reply, it appeared quite evident that he was resolved to sign no new agreement whatever. It was pointed out to him, that the principal article was merely a repetition verbatim of the second article of the existing treaty; but he replied, he wanted no new treaty whatever, as subscribing to it would subject him to similar demands hereafter. He was told, that such would not be the case, provided he acted up to the terms of the alliance with the British Government; and I again informed him, that it was my anxious desire to re-establish friendly relations with him. In alluding to the Vakeels or agents employed in Bombay and England, the Raja said he had not spent much money; but spontaneously made two admissions, namely, that he had expended about 65,000 rupees on a ship* provided by Dr. Milne to keep open his communications with England, which ship was now employed in the China trade; but he gravely assured me, sending her to China was with no hostile intent. He likewise said, that he had lately sent 2,500 rupees to his agents at Poona for Captain Cogan;† 2,000 rupees for expenses, and 500 rupees for the rent of a house. This afforded me another opportunity of pointing out to the Raja the useless expense of his employing agents; but he replied, they were merely employed to represent his case. His Highness, after this, repeated his desire, that the British Government should itself assume the entire charge of his country, for that he did not wish to retain it, if the condition of holding it was his signing my terms. I inquired of him whether he fully comprehended the arrangement I contemplated in the event of his persisting in refusing; and he replied, that he did so, as the Resident had informed him yesterday, that I proposed placing his brother on the throne, and to remove him from Sattara to Benares, or elsewhere: but that this course of proceeding would be oppressive, and contrary to all the customs and usages of India, though he did not desire the raj. After some further remarks, as to the necessity of the Raja following the course pointed out to him, the conference, which occupied about two hours, terminated at the Raja's request, and he returned home.

Resident's fourth and last interview with the Raja, 27th August.

Being now, to my deep mortification and regret, quite satisfied, that any further attempt, on my part, to induce the Raja to swerve from the resolutions he had taken would be abortive, I reluctantly prepared to return to Poona. I determined, however, to give his Highness another opportunity; and the evening before my departure I directed the Resident to wait on him for his answer, stating, that I was going away the next morning, and to assure the Raja, that I had looked over the papers which he had left with me the preceding day, that they did not for the most part seem to bear on the questions at issue betwixt us, and had not produced any change in my intentions. The result of this interview was, a declaration, on the part of the Raja, that he intended to adhere to his first resolutions, as is recorded in the Resident's notes marked A. No. 4, appended to this minute.

19. I accordingly left Sattara on the 28th August, and reached Poona on the day following. I particularly instructed the Resident to forward to me any communications which the Raja might make, being still desirous to keep the

* N.B. The ship here alluded to is called the *City of Poona*, and was recently advertised for freight to China by the firm of Pollexfen, Milne, and Co. It seemed to me that the Raja's last remark was in allusion to the present disturbances in China.

† *Vide* Colonel Ovens's letter of the 8th and 31st August, forwarding the intercepted correspondence, Appendices F, to this minute.

the door open for accommodation up to the last moment; and I intended, in the event of my receiving overtures of concession from the Raja, before the last arrangements could be made for carrying my final designs into effect, still to have saved him.

20. I shall now proceed, first, to state and remark on the conditions proposed to, and deliberately rejected by, the Raja. Secondly, the arrangements which, under my authority, have in consequence of that refusal been adopted at Sattara. Thirdly, I shall endeavour to trace the causes which appear to me to have primarily occasioned my failure in the accomplishment of the objects of my visit to Sattara. Fourthly, the further measures that are called for to complete those now in progress. I must be as brief as possible, consistently with clearness; for it is highly essential that a full report of my proceedings should be transmitted to the Home Authorities by the overland mail, which is to leave Bombay on the 12th of this month.

21. The information required under the first head will be best afforded by the following translation of the Mahratta memorandum, which the Raja was required to sign.

“ Information having been received by the British Government, that your Highness, misled by evil advisers, had, in breach of the treaty which placed you on the throne, entered into communications hostile to the British Government, an inquiry into these accusations was considered indispensable. This inquiry has satisfied the British Government, that your Highness has exposed yourself to the sacrifice of its alliance and protection. Nevertheless, moved by considerations of clemency towards your Highness and your family, the British Government has resolved entirely to overlook what has past, on the following conditions, namely:

“ First, that your Highness now binds yourself, strictly and in good faith, to act up literally to all the articles of the treaty of the 25th September 1819; and especially to the second article of that treaty, which is as follows: ‘The Raja, for himself and for his heirs and successors, engages to hold the territory in subordinate co-operation with the British Government, and to be guided in all matters by the advice of the British Agent at his Highness’s Court.’

“ Second, that your Highness binds yourself to pay your brother, Appa Sahib Maharaj, whatever allowances he has heretofore received, and to put him in possession of all his private property; and, should any dispute arise on this subject, the same is to be referred to the Resident for adjustment. Appa Sahib Maharaj is also to be permitted to reside at any place he himself may choose, under the protection of the British Government.

“ Third, that Bulwunt Row Chitnavees be dismissed from your Highness’s counsels, and not permitted to reside within your Highness’s territory without the sanction of the British Government.

“ Fourth, the persons whose names are inserted in a separate list, having been guaranteed by the British Government in person, property, and allowances of every description, as the same stood in July 1836, this guarantee is to be binding on your Highness, and all complaints against them are to be referred to the Resident. Should it appear necessary hereafter to the British Government to add the names of any other persons to this list, the same guarantee is to be extended to them, and it is to be acted upon in good faith by your Highness, in any manner that may be pointed out by the British Government. All complaints against these persons are also to be referred to the British Resident for his adjustment.

“ The above are the terms to be agreed to by your Highness, and these conditions are to be considered as supplemental to the treaty of the 25th September 1819, and to be signed and sealed as such by your Highness, that there can be no modification in these terms, as your Highness’s sincere well-wisher, the British Government offers them, in the confidence that your Highness’s penetration will recognize their moderation, and the expediency of a prompt acquiescence. It is confidently expected, also, that the clemency

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Governor
4 Sept. 1839.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Governor,
4 Sept. 1839.

“ clemency of the British Government in preserving your state (raj) will
“ be duly appreciated by your Highness, as it cannot fail to be by the gene-
“ ral voice of this country, and induce your Highness, for the future, scru-
“ pulously to maintain the relations of friendship and mutual confidence, by
“ acting up to the provisions and principles of the treaty.”

22. In the sixth paragraph of this minute, I have observed, that the terms offered in the above document are more moderate than those proposed in my minute of the 20th June last; and this will be clearly manifest on a reference to that paper. In order not to provoke discussion, I omitted to specify the three specific instances in which the Raja has violated the treaty, and substituted the mild preamble to the conditions above given for what I proposed in the fifth paragraph of my original minute; I altogether omitted specific mention of the first and third of the original conditions, and made a very important concession to the Raja's feelings, by including under the concluding clause of the fifth, only one person. On this point I beg to refer to Colonel Ovans's report, dated the 29th June last, marked B., as an appendix to this minute. I soon understood from the Resident, that the greatest obstacle to an amicable adjustment with the Raja would be, my insisting on the Senaputtee being henceforward excluded from his counsels; and, notwithstanding that this person has taken a very conspicuous part in these intrigues against the British Government, I resolved to yield this point, in the faint hope of thereby making an impression on the Raja. What, then, in fact, was the substance of the terms offered? By the first, the Raja was simply required to engage to act according to an article of the Treaty of 1819, by which, of course, he is already bound. By the second, he was required to continue the allowances heretofore granted to his brother; a stipulation evidently necessary, not only with reference to the peculiar circumstances which compelled Appa Sahib to throw himself on our protection and to take up his residence in the British cantonment, but also because the demand is in conformity with the spirit of the treaty of 1819, the preamble to which expressly states, that the Raja was then invested “ with a sovereignty for the maintenance of his family in comfort and dignity.” By the third, he was merely required to remove from his counsels the man who has undoubtedly been the chief cause of his downfall, whose character is so fully exposed in Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans's report, dated the 15th February 1838, when reporting on the bukur, or historical sketch, which this man compiled, and which first revealed the clue to the whole of the Raja's infatuated conduct. The man who has constantly pandered to the Raja's ambitious views, by instilling into his mind that he is entitled by hereditary right to the whole of his ancestor Sevajee's dominions, and that instead of being, as we are accustomed to imagine, largely indebted to the British Government for bestowing on him as a free gift one of the fairest and most fertile portions of the Deccan, he has been most shamefully wronged, and Mr. Elphinstone's pledged faith to him at the time of his seeking the protection of the British Government violated, by our having retained any portion of the territory conquered from the Peishwa. I need not add, that the removal of this person from the Raja's confidence was alike called for, in support of the dignity of the British Government, and from a regard to the real interests of the Raja and his well-being for the future. By the fourth and last condition, he is simply bound not to injure, either in person or property, those who had come forward, either voluntarily or by constraint, and proved his guilt: a stipulation which we could never have abandoned, except at a sacrifice of principle altogether destructive of our reputation. I am however convinced, that it was the first of my conditions which was the most unpalatable to his Highness and the chief bar to his assent, for, to it his objections appeared to be chiefly directed at our several interviews; for he asserted, that he refused to sign the original treaty, from which it is taken, three different times; and significantly remarked to the Resident, that assenting to it would reduce him to the condition of a mamlutdar (manager or farmer) of a district. What, may I ask, was this, but a formal renunciation, on the Raja's part, of a most important condition of the existing treaty; and how is it possible for us to maintain friendly relations

relations with a prince who so much mistakes his real position, and thinks so lightly of the obligations which he has contracted, and under which he holds his territories?

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Governor
4 Sept. 1839.

23. By the Raja's advocates, both in this country and in England, and perhaps by others who will not have an opportunity of becoming acquainted with the merits of this case, it may be remarked, that the moderately expressed preamble to the conditions, and my refusing to re-open the question of the Raja's innocence or guilt, was fatal to the amicable adjustment of the differences between the two states, which I so ardently desired, and which I as strenuously endeavoured to effect. No middle course, however, presented itself. We must either have acted summarily on our convictions, or we must have placed the Raja formally on his trial, and, of necessity, as preliminary thereto, have suspended him from the exercise of sovereign powers; or, in other words, have temporarily deposed him. His trial by a commission was, in fact, proposed by the late Sir Robert Grant, and was at one time sanctioned by the Governor General of India. Sir Robert Grant, however, was fully sensible of the difficulties which the adoption of this measure would create, and has justly observed: * "Before such a course, however, is adopted, I trust it will be considered, states are bound to act justly in dealing with their allies or tributaries; but there are a thousand cases in which it may be impossible for them to adapt their course to the ordinary forms of procedure. I must, therefore, regard a precedent as highly inconvenient, if not highly dangerous, that would establish the rule, that the British Government cannot depose any prince not taken *flagrante bello*, except through the medium of a formal trial. If we are to go so far, indeed, I know not why we should not go farther. The Raja might ask that half the commissioners should be subjects of Sattara, or some other Native country: he might claim a right of challenge: he might insist on being tried by his peers. There is no end to the demands and difficulties that might arise." The Governor General of India, moreover, when proposing a commission, showed that he was equally alive to the difficulties of this mode of procedure. "Yet by what process,"† observes his Lordship, "and with what impression upon the public mind, is the guilty state to be tried, condemned, and punished? When a great Government, like that of the British in India, directs its vengeance, however just, against a helpless dependant neighbour, and when it cannot avoid the appearance of being prosecutor and judge in its own cause, we must not be surprised if its motives and actions are widely misconstrued; and how can a suspected prince be fairly tried in his own dominions, if left in the possession of sovereign power? Yet can he be brought to trial without, at least, the plausible imputation of prejudice and injustice, after the open ignominy of a deposition, however avowedly provisional and temporary?" When Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens's report, dated the 15th November 1838, pointing out strong objections against the mode of procedure suggested by the Governor General, and urging either, first, that a commission should at once be assembled, or secondly, that the Raja's authority should be suspended pending further proceedings, was submitted to Lord Auckland, his Lordship candidly admitted,‡ that "the reasons urged by the Resident, and concurred in by the Governor in Council, were sufficient to satisfy him, that it would not be right to persevere in the course which he had previously recommended, and to present to the Raja a written statement of the charges and proofs against him, calling upon him for an answer." On the same occasion the Governor General thus alluded to the difficulties of placing the Raja on his trial: "The course which has been next recommended as open to the Government is, the suspension of the Raja from the functions of sovereignty, and the appointment of a commission to sit in judgment upon him. The suspension of a person so placed as is the Raja of Sattara, against whom a strong *prima facie* case has been established, and whose

* Minute dated the 31st May 1818, paragraph 54.

† Minute dated the 23d September 1838, paragraph 4.

‡ Minute of the 29th December 1838.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Governor,
4 Sept. 1839.

"conduct appears from every report to be unscrupulously vindictive, "seems, in the event of a new trial being decided upon, to be essential "to the protection of the witnesses, and to the fairness of proceeding "on the part of the accusation; yet the measure would wear a harsh "appearance, and be argued as a predetermination to convict. Not- "withstanding these objections, it appears to be essential, as a preliminary "to any proceeding bearing the character of a final trial. The tribunal "for trial might, perhaps, be best constituted by the appointment of three "of the most impartial and experienced members of the service, whom "it would probably be expedient to take from Madras and Bengal; but I "confess that, looking to the manifest inconveniences of such a mode of trial, "to the measures of importance, and the subjects of interest and excitement "by which the government is already occupied; and especially to the pos- "sibility that no part of this course would be approved by the Honourable "Court, I cannot bring myself to recommend its immediate adoption." His Lordship, therefore, although by no means insensible to the inconveniences of delay, finally resolved not to act, but determined to await instructions from the Home Authorities on the case generally, the mode of trial, if a trial should be judged proper, and respecting the policy to be observed in the event of the Raja being found guilty. The Home Authorities, as far back as the 13th June 1838, expressed an opinion decidedly adverse to any further protracted investigation. In my minute of the 19th June last, I have stated the difficulties and objections which would be encountered, in subjecting the Raja to a trial before a commission composed of our own servants; that the measure would be open to suspicion and misrepresentation; that we should avoid running even the risk of our character for integrity and good faith being questioned; that the competency of such a tribunal to try a sovereign prince would doubtless be questioned; and that "we should be accused of degrading "a sovereign from his acknowledged rank, of offering violence to his feelings "and dignity, and of assuming a right of superiority to which we have no "just claim." In fact, I know of no mode by which one state can arraign for trial the sovereign of another state; and I could not forget that, even in the case of the atrocious murder of Mr. Fraser at Delhi, the proceedings of the authorities in this country were questioned, on the grounds that the chief party implicated was not amenable to our laws, but was an independent chief. The basis of the policy, therefore, which I submitted for the sanction of the Governor General of India was, that the inquiry should not be re-opened, that the idea of a Commission should be abandoned, and that we should content ourselves with recording the conviction of the British Government of the Raja's guilt, and impose on him the lenient terms I have already noticed; and this course was cordially approved and sanctioned in Mr. Secretary Maddock's letter of the 12th July. I may, however, here observe that, in as far as relates to the first, and what all must consider the most serious charge, the Raja attended that Commission which assembled at Sattara in October 1836, the evidence against him was read and explained to him, the option was given to him of being confronted with his accusers, but he declined, and his evidence and a written defence will be found recorded on the Commission's proceedings. I here also deem it proper to refer briefly to the paper which he gave to me at our last interview, headed, "Substance of the case of his "Highness," and to Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens's report thereon of the 2d instant, Appendix C. to this minute. This will give some idea of what the nature of his Highness's defence would have been had the whole question at issue been re-opened. There is nothing in this "case," as regards circumstances connected with the charges against the Raja, which have not been already before Government, and which have not been fully and satisfactorily explained. The paper called "the case," is no defence of the real charges against the Raja: it is vague and evasive, and an endeavour rather to show that he is injured, and to make demands quite inconsistent even with the original treaty under which he was put in possession of his territories. I do not perceive that any advantage could have resulted from my proceeding in person to Sattara, unless I had been vested with full powers, and was resolved to put an end to the further discussion by finally deciding the case; and

SATTARA
PAPERS.Minute
by the Governr.
4 Sept. 1839.

I am persuaded that, had I adopted any other course (that is, had I consented to re-open it) I should have involved the Government in a labyrinth of difficulties, and the case would have been as far removed from final settlement as when it first originated; and that, to quote the words of the Honourable Court's despatch of the 13th June 1838, "it would not only be a waste of time, but seriously detrimental to the character of our Government, to carry on any further inquiry into the matters." No doubt exists of the Raja's guilt; and I rely with confidence on the strength and weight of the evidence on which all the authorities who have considered it have pronounced judgment against his Highness: all of them most reluctantly, and some of them, including myself, against their pre-conceived opinions. I need not here recapitulate the nature of this evidence, or the peculiar and fortuitous manner in which it was obtained. It is only necessary to refer to the exposition of it contained in the late Sir Robert Grant's minutes noted in the margin,* and to the summaries appended to those minutes; to Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens's report dated the 15th November 1838, containing a summary of the evidence on each of the charges; and lastly, to the Honourable Mr. Robertson's minute dated the 8th March last, and to the fact recorded in the Honourable Colonel Morison's minute dated the 25th April last, that it had recently been discovered that the Raja has an emissary at the disaffected Court of Nepal. I will only add one extract from Sir Robert Grant's minute dated the 5th May 1838, and state, in conclusion of my remarks on this subject, that I am convinced that the evidence is irresistibly conclusive, and that it was obtained under such a combination of circumstances, and through so many different and independent channels, as to render it altogether impossible that it could have been fabricated in concert and collusion by the several witnesses, or that the Raja, as his partizans assert, has fallen a victim to a Brahminical conspiracy.

Paragraph 146. "I now proceed to the third head into which I have divided my remarks on the oral evidence, namely, to shew that the testimony of most of the witnesses named under the first head is entitled to credit, not only from the impossibility, in the circumstances under which it was obtained, of concert and collusion among them, or from the absence of any adequate motive for the conspiracy which must have been entered into if their testimony is false, but likewise because it is, in many instances, contrary to the interests and natural wishes of the witnessing parties."

Paragraph 147. "Any one who weighs well the numerous and extraordinary coincidences which are to be found in the mass of evidence forwarded by Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens must, in my opinion, be impressed with a perfect conviction of its general truth. The witnesses are too numerous, and composed of too many classes of society, to render it probable that a combination has been formed among them, for the purpose of giving false testimony. On essential points all the witnesses agree, although with those variations to be expected from persons deposing to the same facts independently of one another. Various discrepancies, and even contradictions, are to be found in their testimony. The chief of these I have already noticed, and they can all be either satisfactorily reconciled, or may fairly be attributed to the confusion of events and transactions embracing a period of at least twelve years. Far from thinking these variations should be considered as affecting the general credibility of the witnesses, I should have deemed the absence of such variations a clear token of concert, and therefore open to the utmost distrust and suspicion."

To those who desire to pursue this subject farther, I must refer to the paragraphs of the same minute which succeed the extract above given, wherein the late Governor clearly establishes the position he had taken.

24. I shall now proceed, in the second place, to explain the arrangements I have adopted, in consequence of the Raja rejecting the amnesty on the conditions proposed. The first at this crisis for me to consider was, whether I was vested with full authority to act as I judged most expedient, or whether

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* 5th, 15th, 24th, 26th, and 31st May 1838.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Governor,
4 Sept. 1839.

it was necessary to refer again to the Governor General of India for instructions on this point. Fortunately I could entertain no doubt. The very case which had actually arisen had been imagined, and his Lordship's instructions applied for and received. In my minute of the 20th June, I alluded to the possibility of the result of my visit to Sattara as follows: "In conclusion, I deem it necessary to refer to a possible, though, I hope not probable, issue to the attempt we are about to make, to re-establish our relations at Sattara on a friendly footing. The Raja, either from mis-appreciating our motives, or from relying on the influence which he may fancy he has established, by means of the numerous agents he has employed both in England and India, may refuse to accept our proffered clemency, boldly assert his innocence, and challenge inquiry. I am not prepared, at this moment, to state the precise course which should be followed under such a contingency; but, in order to avoid the delay of another reference to the Governor General of India, I think the possibility of its occurrence should be pointed out, and his Lordship's sentiments solicited, as to the course we should then pursue." The reference was accordingly made, and answered* in the following clear and explicit terms: "His Lordship can hardly think it possible that, to a frank tender of oblivion of past transactions, and of a return to cordial and amicable relations and to a strict observance of all the stipulations of the treaty, the Raja will reply by a tone of offensive defiance, or by a rejection of the just and moderate terms proposed, or that he should endeavour to re-open the late inquiry, and to continue the unseemly discussion in which he had been so long, by himself and by his agents, engaged. Yet it is possible that those who have reaped gains by the bad advice with which they have misled him, may see advantage to themselves in the course, and may prevail upon him to adopt it. In such case, his Lordship would willingly rely upon the judgment and discretion of the Governor of Bombay, and is prepared to support any strong decision upon which he may determine, whether that decision may be for the deposition of the present Raja, for the substitution of his brother in the raj, or for any modified course of curtailing his political and military power."

25. Under this full authority I determined to act; more especially as I could not be insensible to the injurious effects which would have been produced in the country generally, by my having proceeded in person to Sattara to settle an affair which had been under discussion more than three years, and, returning, leaving matters exactly as I found them. Such a result of my visit, universally known in the Deccan to have been undertaken with the most friendly intentions towards the Raja, could not fail, at least, to expose us to the imputation of political timidity, and this at a crisis when we are so fully aware that emissaries are traversing the empire from powerful states, to foment dissaffection among our dependant allies. To have wavered in a decided line of action, or to have procrastinated a decision, and thus continued the unseemly discussions which have so long existed at Sattara, appeared to me no less derogatory to our supremacy and national character than dangerous to the peace of India. It then became a subject of my most anxious consideration, what course, under all the circumstances of the case, it would be most expedient to pursue; and three suggested themselves. First, deposing the Raja, making a liberal provision for himself and family, and annexing his territories to our own. Secondly, a middle course, or curtailing his political and military authority, by resuming a portion only of his territory. Thirdly, deposing the Raja, but maintaining the integrity of the Sattara state, according to the treaty of 1819, in the person of some other member of his family. I shall now proceed to state why I finally resolved to adopt the last of these courses, in preference to either of the two first.

26. I am prepared to expect that, by some, the first of the above courses will be advocated. I am aware that the policy adopted in 1818, of conferring an independent sovereignty on the representative of Sevajee, has been deemed by some unwise and erroneous; and the result will, with some degree of plausibility,

* Mr. Deputy Secretary Torrens's letter to Mr. Willoughby, dated the 12th July 1839.

SATTARA
PAPERS.Minute
by the Govern-
4 Sept. 1839.

plausibility, be referred to, as conclusive of the soundness of the opinion by those who maintain it. I am not either prepared to contend that the same strong and urgent reasons which induced that eminent and distinguished man, Mr. Elphinstone, to establish the Sattara state, exist in such full force at the present moment for our continuing it, now that it has been justly forfeited, by the flagrant and repeated violations of the treaty on the part of the Raja we are about to depose. Still, as I have observed in a former part of this minute, I am a strong and earnest advocate for upholding the Native states of India; and there are peculiar circumstances connected with the Sattara family, their former renown, the extent of their power, the popularity still attaching to their name, and similar associations, which have strongly disposed me to act in conformity to the above principle, and to endeavour to preserve this state within the limits prescribed in the Treaty of 1819. In short, although I apprehend that, by a pressure of circumstances entirely beyond our control, the whole of the Native states of India are perhaps destined ultimately to fall within the vortex of our rule, I am of opinion that our efforts should be constantly and vigilantly directed towards the procrastination of that event. There is also another consideration which has greatly influenced my decision. While we inflict a just punishment on the guilty we should spare the innocent, and so act, that our motives may appear pure, and entirely free from the suspicion of self-interest. I do not think that our proceedings would be viewed by the community as free from this taint, were the Raja's deposal accompanied by the resumption of his territories, and annexing these to our own empire. By continuing to maintain the state, we at once put to silence the clamour which would be raised by the Raja's party, if we pursued the policy against which I am contending. They would say, we pronounced him guilty, with a view to our own advantage and aggrandizement; and this idea would probably be adopted by many an honest and independent man, who would consider the temptation to which we have been exposed too great to be resisted, and to have rendered us incompetent judges of the Raja's conduct. This, I need not remark, however unjust and erroneous, could not fail to produce the most injurious reflections on our reputation. Finally, I have been supported in the view I have taken of this case, by the consideration that if it is deemed erroneous by the superior Authorities who will have to judge of it, the course of events will, in all human probability, afford a fair opportunity, in a few years, of rectifying what may be deemed erroneous. Neither the Raja about to be deposed, nor his brother who is to be substituted in his place, have any children, and, at their advanced period of life, it is not very likely that they will hereafter have any, and I know of no other party who can claim the succession by hereditary right. It follows, therefore, that on the demise of the new Raja, the Sattara state would lapse to the British Government; unless, indeed, it shall be then judged expedient to allow this line of princes to be continued by the Hindoo custom of adoption: a question which should be left entirely open for consideration, when the event on which it depends shall actually occur. In regard to pursuing a middle course, I will only observe, that it would have been more congenial to the feelings of pity and compassion I entertain towards the Raja, to have adopted it; but, on public grounds, I was constrained to waive all personal feelings, and act as I thought best for the public interests. His conversation with me, and his past conduct, have satisfied me that he is a man whom no treaty can bind, and that he is firmly resolved not to re-enter into and fulfil the stipulations of the treaty under which he was enthroned. We might certainly have curtailed his power, and have reduced his military strength, by resuming a portion of his dominions; but this would only have augmented his animosity towards us, and have rendered him still more dissatisfied and discontented, and still more prone to continue his extravagant intrigues against us; while, at the same time, the resumption of a portion of his territory would have entailed on us nearly the same degree of odium, and have rendered our motives subject to misconception, nearly to the same extent as if we had resumed the whole.

27. Having, therefore, determined to adopt the last of the three courses I am discussing, it became necessary to determine in whose favour, and under
4 K what

SATTARA
PAPERS.Minute
by the Governor,
4 Sept. 1839.

what conditions, the lapsed sovereignty over the Sattara state should be conferred. With regard to the person, as I have before incidentally remarked, there was no choice; for, in fact, there was only one person on whom the investiture could be conferred, namely, the Raja's brother. Of him but little is known, for he has never been prominently brought forward. From private sources I have been given to understand that formerly he was of dissolute habits; but this report requires confirmation. The Resident entertains a favourable opinion of him, as far as his observation extends; and assured me that, after a diligent search of his records and other sources of information, he had not discovered any thing that in any degree impeached his character. Whilst at Sattara I had one complimentary visit from him, and my impressions from this interview were certainly in his favour. To his credit, he abstained from making the slightest allusion to passing events; and I may here add, that during the whole period of my remaining at Sattara, I did not discover the remotest indication of any intrigues being at work against the Raja, or of the desire of any party to effect his ruin, with the view of favouring his brother; and I think that, had anything of this kind been in operation, I could not have failed to detect it.

28. I must now refer to the annexed copy of the instructions which I communicated to the Resident on my return to Poona, Appendix D. to this minute. Before leaving Sattara, I had, of course, fully explained my views to Colonel Ovens, not only in regard to the measures to be adopted, but also as to the mode in which I desired that he should carry them into execution. In the ninth paragraph of this letter will be found the conditions under which the new Raja is to be recognized. These are simple and few in number, and secure no advantages whatever to the British Government, which we are not already entitled to by treaty.

The first binds the Raja to conform to all the provisions of the Treaty of 1819, not modified by the present engagement.

The second defines the boundaries of the Sattara state, to be exactly those specified in the schedule of the aforesaid Treaty; with an express declaration, that the Raja possesses no title or claim, present or prospective, to any territory situated beyond the prescribed boundaries.

The third transfers the management and control of the Sattara Jagheerders to the British Government, with a reservation in favour of the Raja, of the services of the contingents of horse, and all pecuniary payments, on the scale fixed by Captain Grant.

The fourth stipulates for the payment to the late Raja, out of the Sattara revenues, such annual allowance as may be considered proper by the British Government, for the future maintenance of himself and family.

29. It, of course, engaged my consideration, in my communications with the Resident, whether it was probable that the late Raja would resist; and, in such case, what were the means of resistance at his command. I ascertained that, for the size and extent of his territory, the Raja has been accustomed to maintain a much larger force than is necessary for the internal defence of his territories; that his cavalry and artillery are respectable, but his infantry ill-disciplined and inefficient. Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens is, however, decidedly of opinion, that direct and forcible resistance on the Raja's part is not to be apprehended, and expressed his readiness to carry into effect what I proposed with the aid of the troops ordinarily stationed at Sattara. He believes that the Raja is deficient in personal courage, and that, when we declare our intention to set up his brother, most of his troops will desert him: and this, I may state, formed an additional argument in favour of that measure, as likely to prevent collision and bloodshed.

30. In cases like the present, however, it is always incumbent to err on the safe side; and, on my return to Poona, I caused orders to be issued for the immediate march to Sattara of the under-mentioned reinforcement. Light company of her Majesty's 41st regiment, five companies of Native infantry, and 160 Poona irregular horse.

*These troops left Poona the morning of the 31st, the senior officer in command

mand having been instructed, on his arrival at Sattara, to place himself under the Resident's orders. Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens has moreover been cautioned, not to incur any risk, but, in the event of his observing any appearance of a determined resistance on the Raja's part, to apply for such additional troops as he may deem requisite to overcome all opposition.

31. I now submit attention to the draft of the Proclamation (Appendix D. No. 1), under which the Raja will be deposed and his brother proclaimed as his successor. In the preamble to this document, I considered it advisable to recall to the recollection of the community in general the peculiar circumstances under which the Sattara state was established, as set forth in the Honourable Mr. Elphinstone's Proclamation of the 11th February 1818. Having done this, the substance of the second and fifth articles of our Treaty with the Raja dated the 25th of September 1819 are recited, in order that the nature of his compact with the British Government may be fully understood. The Raja's violations of his engagements are then stated in general terms, as well as the conditions on which the British Government had resolved to overlook the past. Finally, the Raja's rejection of these conditions is announced, and the consequent intention of the British Government to enforce against him the penalty provided by the fifth article of the Treaty, and to proclaim his brother as his successor. It appears to me indispensable to make this Proclamation, that our motives should not be misunderstood or misrepresented in this country.

32. My instructions to the Resident enjoin, that every effort should be made to obviate collision; but should such unhappily occur, that every precaution should be taken to prevent injury to the well-disposed, and guard against irregularities on the part of our troops. They likewise enjoin, that every attention be paid to the personal comfort and convenience of the Raja and his family, and secure to him his private property, and a suitable maintenance for his future support. The question of his future disposal is left for consideration hereafter. I have every confidence in Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens's judgment and discretion, that he will secure that these instructions are scrupulously attended to.

33. I now proceed to endeavour to trace the causes which I believe to have principally occasioned the failure in the accomplishment of my visit to Sattara. These are, I conceive, two-fold. First, the Raja's character, and the fallacious and erroneous impressions which have been for some time past instilled into his mind. Secondly, the confidence he reposes in the numerous agencies he has established in this country and at home.

34. I have observed, that the Raja has appeared to me to be a prince whom no treaty can bind, and that he is firmly resolved never again to engage to act up to the stipulations of the Treaty of 1819. If this opinion is correct, this feeling was, of itself, an insuperable bar to an amicable adjustment of existing differences; for it must be obvious, that any departure from the spirit of this treaty was inadmissible. From the day we seated the Raja on his throne, we have discovered that he was a disappointed and dissatisfied prince, inflated with wild and extravagant notions of his own importance, ambitious to extend his dominions, and constantly occupied in the most absurd and ridiculous intrigues, with the view of effecting his purpose. The late Sir Robert Grant, in his minute of the 5th May 1838, paragraph 87, alludes to the Raja's conduct as follows:—

“ I shall hereafter have occasion fully to shew, that this prince was, from an early period, impressed with the most exaggerated idea of his own claims and pretensions; that, in place of those grateful feelings which he might have been expected to cherish for the immense benefits conferred on him, he was filled only with resentment, at not having received the yet greater and more valuable advantages to which he conceived himself entitled; that this sentiment was inflamed by the notions industriously instilled into him, of his having been treated with bad faith in the arrangements which placed him on the gadi of Sattara; and that, bolstered up by flatterers in these convictions of his consequence and his grievances, he has long been in a state of mind, to
“ which

SATTARA
PAPERS.Minute
by the Governor,
Sept. 1889.

"which any scheme which promised to avenge his wrongs and vindicate his dignity, would find a ready access. Even under these impressions, it may seem singular enough that he should have indulged the hope of carrying his objects by the means on which he appears to have relied; but his extreme ignorance, his distempered ambition, and probably also a superstitious reliance on his destinies, may account for the readiness with which he grasped at a project so flattering to his ruling passion."

35. This subject is further discussed at great length, and with much clearness and ability, by Sir Robert Grant in his final minute on the Sattara case, dated the 31st May 1838; in the eleventh and following paragraphs of which he endeavours, and with great success, to explain the motives by which the Raja's conduct had been directed, and which, when it was first detected, seemed too absurd to be credited. The whole of this document is deserving of attentive consideration by those who are desirous of obtaining a clear comprehension of this most extraordinary case. The Commissioners who were sent to Sattara in October 1836 remarked* as follows: "We also learn on the best authority, that at the time the present Raja was established on the Sattara throne, both himself and family entertained † the most extravagant idea of their own consequence, and that their expectations were proportionate, so that, for a time, the bounty they experienced was not duly appreciated." Perhaps in this paper a key to his Highness's conduct may be found. Time may have weakened the gratitude which he may once have felt towards the British Government, for having restored him to liberty and a throne, and forgetful of what he was, and of the source from whence he derived all that he now possesses, he may have been led, by family pride and a weakened intellect, to think of the much more extensive kingdom which belonged to his ancestors; and having once nourished the dangerous thought, he may have been gradually led by the designing men who now surround him, to entertain false hopes, and, with this object, may have commenced by assailing the fidelity of our troops. I may here observe, that the stipulations contained in the fifth article of the Treaty of 1819 are sufficient to prove, that the framers of that treaty were not unaware, even at that early period, of the bent of the Raja's mind. They seem to have foreseen the dangers into which he has actually fallen, and endeavoured, but in vain, to protect him from them, by strictly prohibiting all direct intercourse on his part, with all foreign states and princes, of whatever description. I could adduce proof upon proof of the Raja's ambition, and of the fact of his restlessness of intrigue being not unknown many years ago to the Residents stationed at his court, which is conclusive against the supposition, that the charges that have been under inquiry during the last three years are the fruit of an intrigue of the day against him. One more, however, will suffice. In a letter, dated the 1st February 1838, Colonel Ovens observes: "Colonel Briggs, in his report to Government dated the 1st January 1827, refers to this ambitious feeling as likely to be the Raja's ruin, in these remarkable and prophetic words, 'He is, however, tenacious of his prerogative, and will every day more and more resist our control. He has lately been flattered by those around him into an erroneous estimate of his own importance, and he has already evinced strong inclinations to extend his connexions beyond the limits prescribed by treaty. It will be fortunate, perhaps, for his Highness, if events afford this Government an early opportunity to give him timely warning of the danger he is incurring, or I should be very apprehensive that he may succeed in involving himself in secret communications with those who may, at some future period, provoke the resentment of Government, when it is likely a development of a system of intrigue with his Highness may take place, which will altogether shake our confidence, and may lead to his ultimate ruin.'"

36. I may, in conclusion of this part of my minute, allude to the "Historical sketch" forwarded to the Governor General of India by Dr. Milne, the Raja's Advocate, and to the late Sir Robert Grant's comments on this document. This unfolds to our view the Raja's insatuated claims and pretensions, in prosecution

* Paragraph 8, Commissioners' report.

† Grant Duff's History, vol. iii. p. 483.

SATTARA
PAPERS.Minute
by the Govern.
4 Sept. 1839.

secution of which he has of late permitted himself to be addressed by his agents in Bombay by the ambitious title of "Hindu Pud-Padshah," or King of the Hindoos. There can be no doubt of this fact; for the title is affixed to one of the many communications which have been made to the Governor General of India, and is commented on by his Lordship in the Deputy-Secretary's letter of the 15th June last, as follows: "The Governor in Council will not fail to observe the style assumed by the Raja of Sattara, *Hindoo Pud-Padshah Sircar*. In arrogating to himself the right to a title almost imperial, and wholly unacknowledged by this Government, or, as far as is at present known, any principal native power, the Raja has given very evident proof, if not of his own overbearing spirit, at least of a strong disposition on the part of those who are about him to excite and flatter his vanity."

37. In regard to the second cause of failure in effecting the object of my visit to Sattara, we are not left to conjecture. I annex to this minute (Appendices E. and F.) two letters received from Colonel Ovens, dated as per margin,* forwarding some intercepted correspondence of the Raja's agents, a short time previously to my arrival at Sattara, and during the very period of my endeavours to induce the Raja to accept an amnesty on the lenient terms proposed.

38. It is almost incredible the number of agents employed by the Raja. He has sent two separate missions to England, on whose influence and exertions he confidently depends to obtain a reversal of whatever proceedings are adopted against him by the Authorities in India. From the day of my arrival in this country, I have been continually beset by his agents in Bombay and at Poona, and their efforts have been unceasing, to induce me to consent to direct communications with them independently of the local Authority. I, of course, defeated this object, and have purposely abstained from resorting to Native agency of any kind.

39. There are, however, some English gentlemen who have warmly entered into the Raja's cause, without, of course, being aware of the real merits of his case, and without possessing any other knowledge of the subject-matter of dispute between the two states, than what the Raja and his agents have seen fit to disclose. I deem it only necessary to refer the Board to the intercepted correspondence furnished in Colonel Ovens's letters dated the 8th and 31st August, to which I would invite its particular attention. I have no doubt in my own mind of the authenticity of the correspondence: in fact, some of the circumstances alluded to passed under my own observation.

40. It will also be seen from the correspondence, that the press has been resorted to with the same object. On one occasion, an article which appeared in the *Times* is translated and forwarded; and the editor of the *Durpun* newspaper has mixed himself up in these intrigues, for on the 24th August, two days after my arrival at Sattara, one of the correspondents writes as follows: "Ball Shastree (the editor) has desired me to submit an humble representation, that the Sircar should pay attention to the substance of what he has published in the *Durpun* of the 23d instant, containing distant allusions. "This matter will be known from the *Durpun*."

41: In a letter dated the 5th September 1838, the Bombay Government brought to the notice of the Secret Committee, how much, in the course of these discussions, the liberty of the press had been abused; and, in reporting these proceedings, I desire that a particular reference may be made to that communication; for I am strongly impressed with the conviction, that one of two results must ensue; either that the authority of the Governments of this country will be entirely undermined, or that, in a few years, there will not be a single Native state left in India. This opinion has been before recorded by one of our most distinguished Indian functionaries, the late Sir John Malcolm, who, in allusion to another state under the control of this Government,

* 8th and 31st August 1839.

† No. 29 of the series.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Governor,
4 Sept. 1839.

Government, has thus pointed out the dangers likely to arise from an *imperium in imperio* being established in this country.

"I must, in concluding this short record of Baroda affairs, state, that the evils attending them, both as affecting Syajee and the Government, have been greatly aggravated, by corrupt agents instilling into his mind false hopes of his receiving support from her Majesty's Courts of Law at Bombay, and afterwards from one of his principal agents at Calcutta. Proofs will be found of these facts in the record, and they are worthy of the serious attention of the Authorities in England. They may not be capable of complete remedy, but that should be applied as far as practicable; for there exists not, amid the difficulties which must ever attend the administration of the empire, one more likely to generate corruption and intrigue, or which is more calculated to hurry princes and chiefs to their ruin, than that impression which low and interested men create and maintain, of their being able to appeal in political matters beyond the local Government under whom they are placed."*

42. I now proceed to suggest the further measures which are required consequent to the deposal of the Raja. The first of these relates to the place of his future residence. This is a question which must be left for the decision of the Governor General of India. I am myself of opinion, that it is expedient that the Raja should be removed from the territories dependent on this Presidency, and I think that some suitable place, either at Benares or within the Madras Presidency, should be selected for his future residence, as he will, in either of these situations, be less able to carry on the intrigues in which himself and partizans may be expected to engage after his removal.

43. The next point for consideration is, the amount of stipend to be allowed for the future maintenance of himself and family. This should be liberal; but the precise amount must be left for the Governor General's consideration. The revenues of the Sattara state have of late years averaged about fourteen lacs per annum. I would propose that, out of these, an assignment of from one lac to one lac and twenty-five thousand rupees, be made to the Raja, which sum will amply provide for his comfort, and that of his family and personal dependents.

44. I shall forward a copy of this minute and enclosures to the Governor General of India with as little delay as possible, and I request that another copy may be sent to the Government of India, with all practicable dispatch.

45. I shall also send copy of the Proclamation under which the Raja will be deposed to the undermentioned officers, to enable them, if necessary, to explain the grounds of the measures adopted, at the Courts to which they are respectively accredited:—

- 1st. Political Commissioner for Guzerat.
- 2d. Resident in Cutch.
- 3d. Political Agent in the Southern Mahratta Country.
- 4th. Agent for Sirdars in the Deccan.
- 5th. Resident at Indore.
- 6th. Resident at Gwalior.
- 7th. Resident at Nepal.
- 8th. Governor General's agent in Rajpootana.
- 9th. Resident at Hyderabad.
- 10th. Resident at Nagpore.
- 11th. Government of Madras.

46. I have caused two copies of the whole of these proceedings to be transcribed here, for transmission to England by the next overland mail; but there will not be time to prepare a letter in detail to accompany them, which, under the circumstances, the Secret Committee will doubtless excuse.

47. In a former part of this minute, I have expressed my opinion of the advantage which I have derived from the able assistance and co-operation of the

* Malcolm's Government of India, Appendix A., p. 5.

the Honourable Mr. Anderson. His long experience as a judicial servant, his former employment in the Deccan and Southern Mahratta country as a political officer, and his previous personal acquaintance with the Raja, rendered his counsel of particular value. It is a source of high satisfaction to me, that his opinions are in perfect accordance with the line of policy I finally determined to pursue.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Governor
4 Sept. 1839.

48. I have also recorded my sense of the services of the Resident, Colonel Ovens; and it now only remains for me to discharge a further gratifying act of public duty, in also recording my acknowledgments to Mr. Willoughby, the Political Secretary in attendance. His information and intimate knowledge of all former proceedings proved of great advantage in my consideration of the Raja's case, and I cannot too highly commend his unwearied industry and promptitude in the execution of my instructions. In particular, it is due to this excellent public officer to state, that he has evinced an earnest desire throughout my negotiations, that they should succeed to my original intention and wishes, under the general authority vested in me by the Governor General of India.

49. I take upon myself the entire responsibility of the policy which has been adopted, and, strong in the rectitude of my intentions, I submit these proceedings to the consideration of my superiors, and of those high authorities whom I have the honour to serve.

(Signed) J. R. CARNAC.

Dapoorce, 4th September 1839.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Dated 7th September 1839.

Minute
by the Governor
7 Sept. 1839.

Copies of the despatch to be sent to the Secret Committee by the steamer on the 12th; a copy also to be despatched to the Governor General, with the original treaty, for his Lordship's ratification. It requires no observation except as regards the second and third articles, which, it should be briefly explained, have been called for by the unreasonable pretensions set up by the Raja, and the disputes regarding the Jagheerdars, enumerated in the third article. The Governor General will observe, that the pecuniary payments and contingents borne on the scale fixed formerly we shall expressly reserve to the Raja.

Colonel Ovens to be informed of my high approbation of the course of his proceedings, in the execution of the delicate and important duty committed to his hands, in which he has eminently displayed firmness, judgment, and discretion, which entitle him to the warmest expression of the thanks of Government. It has been most satisfactory to me, that the seizure of the Raja has not been attended by any disturbance or bloodshed, and that Colonel Ovens has treated him with every indulgence and consideration consistent with his situation. As regards the Senaputtee, the Resident has acted wisely in requiring him to accompany the ex-Raja to his present residence; though it is not my intention that he should be hereafter regarded as a prisoner, but that, as soon as circumstances admit, he shall be allowed to go where he pleases.

Colonel Ovens should be requested to communicate to the officers and the troops under his command, the thanks of Government for their soldier-like and steady conduct in the service on which they were employed.

(Signed) J. R. CARNAC.

7th September 1839.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute by
Mr. James Farish,
9 Sept. 1839.

MINUTE BY MR. JAMES FARISH,

Dated 9th September 1839.

1. I have considered with great attention and the deepest interest the Honourable the Governor's minute of his proceedings at Sattara. The early dispatch of the steamer has not permitted my having access to the documents forming the Appendix, but the events and circumstances are so fully explained and detailed in the minute, as to render this of less importance. I therefore proceed, at once, distinctly, but briefly, to record my opinion, and can hereafter add any thing further, should I find it necessary.

2. My entire conviction of the Raja's guilt in the instances charged against him is on record. Subsequent events have only tended to confirm it: but the very act of his refusing the conditions of oblivion and reconciliation, conditions which even spared him the mortification of expressly acknowledging guilt, particularly the first, as connected with his remark that it would place him in a subordinate situation, is a virtual declaration, that he did not hold himself bound by the treaty of 1819; and even setting aside his former infractions of the treaty, shews that no dependence could have been placed on him at any future period. His warmest advocates must be unable now seriously to maintain the position, that the Government of British India could, with any regard to its honour and influence, or to its position as paramount, have permitted him to remain at the head of that state over which it had placed him in subordinate co-operation, after distinctly and deliberately renouncing that subordination.

3. I therefore entirely, and on the firmest conviction of its necessity, approve and concur in the measure of the Raja's deposition.

4. I cordially acquiesce, also, in the soundness of the principle and of the reasons, on which this course was preferred to that of continuing the Raja, with diminished power, at Sattara.

5. My former views were, I must acknowledge, in favour of the British Government resuming that territory which it had conferred on the representative of the founder of the Mahratta empire, from a conviction that it was intrinsically right, to resume what had been voluntarily granted, when the conditions of the grant were flagrantly violated, and the power conferred in clemency abused by the Raja, with hostile feeling, to work the injury of his benefactors. I also considered that it was expedient to do so, rather than transfer the government to any of his family, in order to obviate the intrigues of restless ambition, which will always prompt a member of the house of Sevajee to take advantage of circumstances affording the most distant prospect of elevation.

6. These *were* my views of the course we should follow; but I am free to confess, that when I consider the strong grounds on which Sir James Carnac has proceeded, in placing the Raja's brother over this justly-forfeited state, and all the circumstances which have arisen, that measure does now appear to me to have advantages over any other course which could have been pursued. Its real inconveniences may, I trust, after past experience, be guarded against, and while it should silence those who might oppose and misrepresent our motives, it will exhibit a practical and salutary lesson to the Native princes dependent on us, who have but too ready an ear to evil advisers unfriendly to us, and furnish another instance of the moderation and clemency of our rule. The moral effect of this, at a time when our arms have so signally prospered in the direction to which all eyes are turned, will not, I trust, be without important advantages.

7. I will add no more, but record my cordial concurrence in the whole course which has been ably followed out by the Honourable the Governor.

(Signed) JAMES FARISH.

9th September 1839.

MINUTE BY MR. G. W. ANDERSON,

*Dated 10th September 1839.*SATTARA
PAPERS.Minute by M
G. W. Anderson
10 Sept. 1839

Being in the Deccan for change of air, the Honourable the Governor expressed a desire that I should accompany him in his visit to Sattara. To this, in the spirit of the aid I had promised, I immediately assented, and I have thus had the advantage of being present at the several conferences held with the Raja, and of being made acquainted, step by step, with the policy and measures the Honourable the Governor deemed it expedient to pursue with this prince.

It is not my intention to again enter into the question of the Raja's guilt. On that question I have already recorded my decided opinion; and I think there cannot be error in the conclusion come to, when we find every authority in India who has recorded an opinion on the case has arrived at the same conviction, and declared they consider the Raja to have forfeited his throne.

I purpose, then, here only to offer my sentiments upon the occurrences and the measures pursued by the Honourable the Governor, on the occasion of his visit to Sattara, and its result.

I consider that it would have been impossible, notwithstanding the intention to pass over and forgive the hostile designs and plots to our injury in which the Raja had engaged, not to have referred to our conviction of these designs, in requiring from him those stipulations which, from the circumstances, became essential in continuing to him his throne. It would, however, have been difficult to have referred to these designs in a manner or in language less offensive; and I am equally satisfied, that the stipulations to which he was required to accede will be viewed at all hands, under the penalties he was deemed to have incurred, as the least that could have been demanded. The stipulations required nothing for ourselves, but safety for others and future safety for himself.

These conditions, however, the Raja, with an unvarying determination, declined to sign. He seemed rather to require that it should be proclaimed that injury had been done to him, that others should be punished, and instead of assenting to a second acknowledgment of the treaty, he wished rather to show that the treaty, with its second article, was a thing he had more than once resisted, and was at last forced upon him.

It is here that, being present at the conferences and at every conversation, I desire to record, that nothing could exceed the kindness and the earnestness with which the Honourable the Governor addressed the Raja, to urge him to the only means by which his raj could be preserved to him. Every just argument was used, every explanation given, in the spirit of truth, and a sincere anxiety to save him from the loss of his principality; but all was vain. He would accede to nothing of the nature of the propositions tendered to him, however plainly, though ever with a remarkable consideration, the consequences of his refusal were placed before him.

These consequences I should have almost doubted his Highness to have understood, had he not, seeing something of this doubt, expressly stated that he did understand them, and repeated in substance what had been communicated.

It is certain that the most earnest endeavour was made by the Honourable the Governor, to warn the Raja of the precipice upon which he stood, and to bring to his mind the conviction, that the loss of his raj, when conferred on his successor, would be a measure that could not be undone.

But it was all without effect. He seemed, and seems, to place his dependence upon something else; in fact, on that agency which, however undesignedly, has worked his ruin: for to my mind it is conclusive, that had it not been for that most mistaken agency, the Raja, with all his faults, would have been saved.

I abstain from entering into any detail of the occurrences on the visit to Sattara, since the Honourable the Governor, in his minute, has so circumstantially and so clearly narrated those occurrences, and so fully explained

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute by Mr.
J. W. Anderson,
10 Sept. 1839.

how, having determined on the policy to be pursued; he gave instructions for the measures necessary to carry it through.

To the accuracy and to the faithfulness with which the several conversations and events are narrated, I here also record myself as bearing the fullest testimony.

In respect to the policy of placing the Raja's brother on the throne, determined upon by the Honourable the Governor, I admit that my general views are very different. I freely admit, however, that there were circumstances here, that this was an occasion on which the sentiments I entertained could hardly be adopted.

There had been no open hostility, there was no conquest; and though I consider forfeiture, as expressly contemplated in the treaty, to be complete, yet it was an instance where I consider it was essential, to shew the country that, in the measures it was determined to adopt, we had no view whatever to our own advantage; that no one step was taken in view or desire for acquisition.

The desire, the sincere desire, was to save the Raja. No mode, no word, seemed so effectual to this, as to shew, in placing a successor on the throne, as well the integrity of our views, as that the measure was final, and therefore that he might see, by his fatal determination, the irretrievable ruin he was bringing upon himself.

Upon the question of immediately proclaiming the brother as Raja, if that was to be the ultimate policy, I had no doubt.

The Governor General had declared, that he would support such a decision if resolved upon. The Honourable the Governor considered it the policy that ought to be pursued: a further reference to his Excellency was therefore unnecessary, while the effect of immediate action would be great throughout the country.

The visit of the Honourable the Governor to Sattara was well known: it was desirable to show its result. It was, unhappily, not that result he so earnestly desired; but being determined, its effect by delay would have been weakened, and the great advantage, as a warning to other states, of showing that where so high an authority intervenes and acts, that he acts with full power, would have been lost.

In the whole measures pursued by the Honourable the Governor on this occasion, I have now, therefore, only to record my perfect concurrence. I can conceive no other course that he could have adopted, no other thing done, than that which was done.

The reluctance of the Honourable the Governor to find, as the result became inevitable, that he would have to adopt it, the pain it gave him was most manifest, and my perfect impression, whilst even in the room with the Raja, was, that if he would allow himself to be saved, that the Honourable the Governor would effect it. But the Raja had other advisers, and hence the fatal ruin that has fallen upon him.

(Signed) G. W. ANDERSON.

10th September 1839.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Dated 27th September 1839.

(Subscribed to by the Board.)

This report is in all respects highly satisfactory.

The abolition of the inhuman rite of suttee in the Sattara territory, where it has been hitherto so prevalent, will be hailed with satisfaction by every friend of humanity.

The measure has, no doubt, been resolved on by the Raja, from the knowledge which he possesses of the abhorrence with which this rite is held by the British

Minute
by the Governor,
27 Sept. 1839.

British Government. It is, however, his spontaneous act, and reflects the highest credit on him.

I trust that the example may soon be followed by other Native chiefs under this Presidency.

The abolition of transit duties is likewise very satisfactory, and is in accordance with an article of our treaty with the Sattara state.

The introduction of the Company's currency is also a satisfactory proof of the Raja's desire to co-operate in the views of the British Government.

A transfer, regarding transit duties and our currency, should be made to the Revenue Department, and such subsidiary measures adopted from thence, as to give full and immediate effect to the Raja's resolutions.

The Resident at Sattara should be replied to, to the above effect.

Copy of this letter should be sent to the Governor General of India and to the Secret Committee.

(Signed) J. R. CARNAC.

27th September 1839.

SATTARA.
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Govern
27 Sept 1839

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Dated 1st October 1839.

Minute
by the Govern-
1 Oct. 1839.

(Subscribed to by the Board.)

1. Colonel Ovens's despatch and enclosures of the 28th ultimo contain important information in elucidation of the ex-Raja of Sattara's proceedings, and these documents should be forwarded, for the information of the Secret Committee, by the steamer which leaves on the 7th instant.

2. The delicacy observed by the Resident towards the ex-Raja's ladies is highly commendable.

3. The first set of enclosures refers to the original letters addressed by Dr. Milne and other gentlemen to the Raja,—a list of these forms accompanying No. 1, and a selection of them No. 2, to the Resident's despatch.

4. From the extract from Dr. Milne's letter dated the 27th October 1836, at the very time the Sattara Commission was investigating the charge against the ex-Raja of having tampered with our troops, we learn how early that gentleman endeavoured to persuade the Raja to trust to the exertions of an independent agency in England. He therein proposes, as a suitable agent in every respect, Mr. Macdonald, the Editor of the *Bombay Gazette* and *Bombay Examiner*, and informs the Raja that, "by the terms of the present charter, the Government cannot prevent" his agency being resorted to. The extract from Dr. Milne's memorandum of the 2d April 1837 is important, because it proves that this gentleman, of his own accord, espoused the ex-Raja's cause, and was not induced to do so at the Raja's request.

5. The extract from Dr. Milne's letter, dated the 4th April 1838, shows to what length he proceeded in his interference; for he therein informs the ex-Raja, that two or three additional articles must be added to the treaty.

6. The extract from the letter of the 19th August explains the infatuated conduct of the ex-Raja in rejecting the amnesty offered to him. It is of further importance, because, in proposing another mission to England, and requiring funds to support it, Dr. Milne admits, that the funds formerly sent "had all been absorbed in building the ship originally intended, in 1837, to send him and your Highness's other people who were to accompany him to England." This ship is the *City of Poona*, at present trading under British colours. The two receipts of Pollexfen, Milne, and Co., for 24,000 and 1,000 rupees, are also of consequence.

7. Colonel Robertson's letter of the 14th March 1838 corroborates the Goa charge against the ex-Raja, for it proves that his intercourse with the

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Governor,
1 Oct. 1839.

authorities at that place was detected in 1827 by that officer, though the extent to which this intrigue was carried, as proved by Nago Deorao's papers, and from other sources, was of course unknown to him. As I have before observed, this fact proves that this charge could not have been fabricated subsequent to the detection of the Raja's attempt to seduce our Sepoys.

8. Perhaps, however, the most important portion of these documents is M. ———'s correspondence with the ex-Raja. On this point I beg to quote the sixth and seventh paragraphs of the Resident's letter.

"The letters from M. ——— also prove, how determined the Raja "was to free himself from all control of the authorities in this country. The "accompaniment to M. ———'s letter of the 4th November 1838 "appears to be very important. It is stated to be the 'Case of his Royal "Highness the King of Sattara, as related by himself;' and it is very remarkable, that the same claims and pretensions are put forward in this document, "and the same grievances complained of, as in the statements found amongst "the Goa papers.

"It would appear also by the Mahratta version of the passport to M. "——— that the rank of Colonel of Cavalry, which he had solicited from "the ex-Raja, and by which he designates himself, had in reality been conferred on him, and arrangements were certainly made, and 21,000 rupees "actually sent to Bombay for this mission, the whole expenses of which were "estimated at 1,24,650 rupees."

9. I beg particular reference may be made to the paper marked No. 13, designated "Case of his Royal Highness the King of Sattara as related by "himself," because herein we have, from another independent source, a key to the ex-Raja's infatuated proceedings, namely, that from the first he was dissatisfied, that he considered he had been duped by his best friend, the Hon. Mr. Elphinstone, and was hence predisposed, from the first, to enter into the wild and extravagant plots proved against him.

10. Enclosure No. 3 is a list of Mahratta original letters from the Raja's agents in Bombay. A considerable portion of this correspondence long ago fell into the hands of the Resident, and has been forwarded to the Secret Committee. The original being now in our possession is satisfactory; and it will suffice to refer the Secret Committee to our former despatches on the subject.

11. The only portion of these now translated relates chiefly to Captain Cogan. From this it would appear that this officer has accepted the office of agent in England to the ex-Raja on a fixed salary. In his letter of the 2d September, Rungoba reports, that a salary of 1,500 rupees per mensem had been offered to him, but that 2,000 rupees appears to be the wish. In the same letter, Captain Cogan is reported to have asked for an advance of twelve months' pay, and to have observed, "the pension which I enjoy will be stopped; therefore, undertaking your service, it is requisite to make a representation there distinctly and openly."

12. Of the evils which will result to the Native chiefs of India from the interference of irresponsible agents, I have no doubt they have been exemplified in the instance of the Raja of Sattara; and unless some means can be devised by the Home Authorities, by which the Native chiefs will be protected, similar results may be expected in other cases. It is not necessary to dwell, in this place, on the degree and extent of mischief which must immediately occur, by the Native princes of India being led to believe, through irresponsible European agency, that they can independently resort through such means to a superior authority in England. By a passage in one of Dr. Milne's letters to the Raja of Sattara, we find he tells him that, by the terms of the present charter, the Government cannot prevent his agency being resorted to. If such an interpretation of the late Charter Act is borne out, its correction in that respect appears to be desirable, for the sake of the Native princes, as well as for the authority of the Government of this country, to which its great interests, its peace and prosperity, have immediately been committed.

13. The

13. The Honourable the Secret Committee's attention should be requested to accompaniment No. 8 of Colonel Ovans's letter, being a detailed statement, as far as has yet been traced, of the sums of money squandered by the ex-Raja on his agents, amounting in the aggregate to upwards of three lacs and sixty-three thousand rupees.

Minute
by the Govern
1 Oct. 1839

14. Their particular attention should also be drawn to the document referred to in the 13th paragraph of Colonel Ovans's letter, which corroborates some of the facts connected with the Goa case. First, the fact of the Swamee of Sunkeshwur having visited the ex-Raja at Sattara; and secondly, that of Nago Deorao being the agent employed in the affairs in which the Swamee and the ex-Raja were engaged. I am not, for the reason assigned by the Resident, surprised that no further evidence has been obtained; for whatever may have existed within the ex-Raja's control has doubtless long ago been destroyed.

15. The envelope of the letter to the ex-Raja, forwarded by Colonel Ovans, is proof of his having allowed his agents to address him by the imperial title of King of the Hindoos, which is, of course, quite unrecognised, and must be received as proof of the ex-Raja's arrogance and ambition.

16. Copy of this minute, and of Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans's letter, should be sent to the Governor General of India.

(Signed)

J. R. CARNAC,
J. FARISH,
G. W. ANDERSON.

1st October 1839.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Dated 2d November 1839.

(Subscribed to by the Board.)

The person herein alluded to voluntarily came to me at Dapooree, and stated, he was willing to afford information regarding the proceedings of the ex-Raja of Sattara.

2. I did not enter into detail with him, but requested him to proceed to Sattara, and state what he had to say before the Resident, cautioning him, at the same time, to speak nothing but the truth, though I am not aware that he has any motive for doing otherwise.

3. The information he has given in his present deposition is of importance, because it corroborates what has from the first been suspected, that the ex-Raja's intrigues were not confined simply to this country, but embraced communications with powers beyond India.

4. I am satisfied, however, that we have not yet discovered the full extent of these intrigues. The discoveries recently made at Kurnool may lead to further important discoveries, and I will only now remark, that every accession of evidence we obtain is of consequence, because it tends to shew that this infatuated prince had grounds, though unknown to us, for supposing that he was only one of a numerous and powerful confederacy secretly formed against us.

5. Copy of this letter to be sent with the above remarks to the Secret Committee and Governor General of India.

(Signed)

J. R. CARNAC,
J. FARISH,
G. W. ANDERSON.

2d November 1839.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
the Governor,
1 Nov. 1839.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Dated 11th November 1839.

(Subscribed to by the Board.)

When we hear from the Governor General respecting the late Raja's property, we may be able to carry into effect Mr. Anderson's suggestion.

(Signed) J. R. CARNAC.

11th November 1839.

Minute
the Governor,
2 Nov. 1839.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Dated 12th November 1839.

(Subscribed to by the Board.)

1. The evidence accompanying this report is very important, and further corroborates the object of the ex-Raja of Sattara, in maintaining intercourse, contrary to his treaty with the British Government, with foreign states.

2. The person who has afforded this information visited me at Dapootee, in company with the Moonshee Wussee Oolla, and I directed him to communicate what he had to say to the Resident. This he has done, and Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans has been able to verify his statements by the evidence of other persons on the spot cognizant of the mission to Hyderabad.

3. The mission of the cazee, Kuramut Oolla Khan, on behalf of the ex-Raja of Sattara, and furnished with funds and an escort by that misguided prince, is fully established; and it further appears that its object was political, and to form a connection between the states inimical to the British Government.

4. I have examined the book in which the informant inscribed a copy of the letter addressed to the Raja by the cazee (accompaniment No. 2 of the Resident's report), and have been unable to detect any appearance of fraud or deceit. The writing appears to be of old date.

5. The communication with the Nujoomie, or astrologer, and the questions put to him by the ex-Raja, respecting the increase of his own dominions and the downfall of English rule, are strongly illustrative of the spirit with which he has so long been actuated against his benefactors.

6. The same may be observed in regard to his communications with the Shahzadah of Delhi, whose visit to this Presidency in 1831-32 is on record, and may be referred to. It is also known that he proceeded to Hyderabad.

7. I request the Secretary in attendance will forward copy of this despatch to the Resident at Hyderabad, with a request that he will favour Government with any information he may be able to obtain regarding the cazee, Kuramut Oolla, and if he sees no objection, cause his family records to be searched, for any correspondence which may have passed between him and the ex-Raja of Sattara.

8. The Resident may be further requested to state, whether the investigation into the conduct of Moobarik-ood-Dowlah has elicited any information, in elucidation of the intrigues which the ex-Raja is supposed to have carried on with Hyderabad, or as regards intrigues by any chiefs.

9. Copy of this letter may also be sent to the Madras Government, with a request that we may be informed, whether the discoveries recently made at Kurnool have, in any way, tended to confirm the statement of the Nellore authorities, that a confederacy had been formed against the British Government, of which the ex-Raja of Sattara was a member.

10. Copy

10. Copy of this letter, and of our consequent proceedings, should be sent to the Governor General of India and to the Secret Committee.

SATTARA
PAPERS

(Signed) J. R. CARNAC,
J. FARISH,
G. W. ANDERSON.

Minute
by the Governor
12 Nov. 1839

12th November 1839.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Dated 18th November 1839.

Minute
by the Governor
18 Nov. 1839

(Concurred in by Mr. James Farish.)

Under this opinion, as far as I can pretend to judge, I think that we had better have nothing more to do with the question as a matter of prosecution in the Supreme Court. The whole subject has been submitted to the Secret Committee, and we should perhaps abide their opinion on it before determining on legal steps on the part of the Raja of Sattara. But, perhaps, Mr. Anderson will favour me with his opinion.

(Signed) J. R. CARNAC.

18th November 1839.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Dated 20th November 1839.

Minute
by the Governor
20 Nov. 1839.

(Concurred in by Mr. James Farish.)

I would, however, propose that inquiry should be made, under what registry the ship sails.

(Signed) J. R. CARNAC.

20th November 1839.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Dated 25th November 1839.

Minute
by the Governor
25 Nov. 1839.

1. I now propose, briefly to record my proceedings during my second visit to Sattara, made for the purposes stated in my minute of the 10th instant.

2. I arrived at Sattara on the 16th and left it on the 22d instant, having made my visit as short as possible, in consequence of being anxious to return to the Presidency.

3. The day after my arrival I received and returned complimentary visits from the Raja. On this occasion I did not enter on business, but merely informed his Highness, that his succession to the Sattara state had been confirmed, and the treaty entered into by him ratified by the Right Honourable the Governor General of India.

4. Early on the morning of the 18th instant, the Raja was conducted in state from his residence near the Residency to the palace, and seated by myself on a throne prepared for the occasion. A public Durbar was then held, at which the whole of the Sattara Jagheerdars, many of the Poona Sirdars, and a numerous assembly of other persons of minor rank, were present. On this occasion I made presents to the Raja, and delivered to him a copy of the treaty ratified by the Governor General of India, with suitable remarks. The display of the Raja's military forces was respectable, more particularly the artillery and part of the cavalry, and altogether I should think, they must have exceeded

SATTARA
PAPERS.Minute
the Governor,
5 Nov. 1839.

exceeded three thousand men. The Company's troops were drawn up in line near the cantonments, and a royal salute fired on the procession passing, which was repeated by the Raja's artillery, his bands playing "God save the Queen." Every thing passed off without interruption or accident, and the procession was conducted with the greatest order and decorum, and, as far as one can judge from outward demonstrations, all seemed well pleased and satisfied with the peaceful change which has been effected in this Government.

5. On the same day the Sattara Jagheerdars, namely, the Punt Pritheeneedhee, the Raja of Akulkote, the Punt Sucheo, the Nimbalkur, and the son of Shaik Meera, visited me at the Residency, and I took the opportunity of explaining the nature of the change which has taken place, both in regard to the Government and themselves, informing them that henceforward they were placed under the control and protection of the British Government. To this class our measures must, in general, be exceedingly popular, for under the rule of the ex-Raja they were undoubtedly subjected to great oppression. After they had retired I was visited by the female representative of the Duffley family, one of the most ancient in this country, by the mother of the Nimbalkur, and by the adoptive mother of the Punt Sucheo, who is a very interesting child, between nine and ten years of age.

6. On the 19th a deputation waited on me from the Raja, to invite me to an entertainment which his Highness wished to give to myself and the whole European society of the station. The invitation was of course accepted. The entertainment was most sumptuous; the Raja was himself present with many of the principal officers of his Government. After dinner a Native Durbar was held, at which I received presents from the Raja, in return for those made to him on the day of his inauguration. The town was illuminated, and the entertainment terminated by a very magnificent display of fireworks outside the town, where tents had been pitched for our accommodation.

7. On the 20th I held a public Durbar in tents near the Residency, at which the Raja and his Court and the Jagheerdars attended. After this his Highness accompanied me to witness the presentation of new colours to the 8th Regiment, and appeared much gratified with this interesting spectacle. On this occasion I gladly availed myself of the opportunity of investing a Native officer of this Regiment with the riband of the order of British India, and made an address to the Native officers on the parade, explanatory of the views and objects of Government in instituting this order.

8. Early on the morning of the 21st I met the Raja by appointment, and accompanied him to his adawlut, or Court of Justice, Park of Artillery, Cavalry Barracks, and to a garden in the neighbourhood of his palace. I was much gratified with this interview. His Highness displayed much intelligence and activity, and took great pleasure in explaining to me the system which he adopted in the administration of justice, grounded chiefly on the rules in force in the time of Captain Grant, our first Resident. In the afternoon the Raja accompanied me to a review of the troops stationed at Sattara, and in the evening I paid my farewell visit to his Highness at the palace. On this occasion the Raja made some general remarks, regarding his having numerous enemies, and his reliance on the British Government for protection and support: he likewise expressed his confidence in the Resident, and his determination to abide by his counsel. I gave his Highness assurances, and explained briefly the principles which should regulate his conduct, and expressed my conviction that he would strictly act up to his engagements, and rule his country with justice and moderation, in which case he might always rely on our regard and protection. During this interview, I was taken by the Raja to an apartment of the palace which has often been alluded to during the inquiries into the ex-Raja's intrigues. It is a small octagon room, called the "Budamee Kholec," or almond-shaped chamber. It is secluded, and well suited for the purpose to which it was appropriated by the ex-Raja. There he was accustomed to hold his secret consultations, and there he received at night the Native officers of the 23d Regiment, one of the Raja's attendants pointing out

out the very door by which they entered. There are four small doors at opposite angles, leading to different quarters of the palace; and in a recess near one of these was found, built up in the wall, upwards of four lacs of rupees. I may conclude this description by stating, that this was the only allusion made by the Raja, or any person about him, to the ex-Raja's proceedings, during the whole period of my residence at Sattara, either on this or my first visit.

SATTARA PAPERS.

Minute
by the Governor
25 Nov. 183:

9. I left Sattara, on my return to the Presidency, on the morning of the 22d instant. As far as the present Raja is concerned, my visit has been a source of unmingled satisfaction and pleasure. I had opportunities of seeing him under all circumstances and at all hours, and I can therefore, from personal observation, positively contradict what has been advanced against him in one of the public prints, that he is a man of dissipated habits, although his appearance is alone sufficient to falsify this accusation. As far as I can judge, there is much of hopeful promise in the Raja's character. He has not, it is true, the subtle acuteness and quickness of his misguided brother, but at all his interviews with me he displayed considerable intelligence and much benevolence of disposition. He has signalized the commencement of his reign by the abolition of the inhuman practice of suttee, heretofore so prevalent in the Sattara territory, and is, I believe, the first Native prince of India who has performed that act of humanity. At considerable pecuniary sacrifice (not less, perhaps, than one lac of rupees per annum) he has freed commerce, and contributed to the comfort and welfare of his subjects, by following our example in abolishing transit duties; and it is with unfeigned satisfaction that I now record, that his Highness has informed me of his intention, after liquidating some debts to the extent of two lacs and fifty thousand rupees, to appropriate the remainder of the treasure found in deposit at his succession, to works of general improvement and utility, and amongst others he enumerates the following :

1st. The erection and endowment of a hospital and dispensary at Sattara, to superintend which, and to diffuse medical science and knowledge in his territory, he solicits the aid of a duly qualified medical officer from the British Government.

2d. The completion of that part of the road from Sattara to Poona, within his territory, remaining unfinished.

3d. The erection of Dhurumsalas and travellers' bungalows, where they may be required within his territory.

4th. The construction of desirable bridges over the rivers Yenna and Krishna.

5th. The re-establishment of Mahratta and English schools at Sattara.

6th. The building of a bund over the Yenna river, formerly contemplated by the ex-Raja, whereby an extensive tank will be formed in his dominions at Mahableshwur.

10. Previous to my departure from Sattara, I made arrangements for the removal of the ex-Raja to Benares as soon as practicable. For particulars, I beg to refer my Colleagues to the instructions issued to the Resident, annexed to this minute, and to a letter which has been addressed on the subject to the Secretary in attendance on the Right Honourable the Governor General of India.

11. It will be observed, that, subject to the confirmation of the Governor General of India, I have, under the authority conveyed in Mr. Secretary Maddock's letter of the 24th ultimo, assigned to the ex-Raja and his family one lac and twenty thousand rupees annually in the proportion specified in the third paragraph of the instructions to the Resident. By some this sum may appear too liberal with reference to the amount of the Sattara revenues; but I deemed it advisable to err, if at all, on the side of generosity. The necessary expenses incurred in removing the ex-Raja will likewise be defrayed by the Sattara Government.

SATTARA
PAPERS.Minute
by the Governor,
25 Nov. 1839.

12. I have nominated Lieutenant Cristall, of the 8th Regiment Native Infantry, agent to accompany the ex-Raja, and request that a general order may be issued, placing him under the orders of the Resident at Sattara for a special duty.

13. In the letter this day addressed to Mr. Secretary Maddock, the claims preferred by the ex-Raja, in the Resident's letter of the 28th September last, to the treasure and the other property in deposit on his deposal, are referred for the decision of the Governor General of India, with my opinion against their validity.

14. I annex to this minute a memorandum, furnished to me by the Resident, containing a rough estimate of the money and jewels now in deposit; from which it will be seen, that Rs. 92,950 3 0 have been expended by, and jewels of the estimated value nearly of Rs. 200,000 taken away, either by the ex-Raja or his ranees. Deducting these, there remains, either actually in deposit or recoverable,

Treasure in deposit	...	...	Rupees	6,87,841	4	6
Ditto recoverable	...	...	...	56,000	0	0
Jewels and other valuables	...	...	...	3,68,267	10	3

15. I have caused these proceedings to be at once submitted to the Governor General, in order to obviate delay, and to enable his Lordship to issue instructions for the ex-Raja's reception at Benares. I beg, however, that my Colleagues will do me the favour freely to record their sentiments on every part of them.

16. I have much pleasure in stating, that I have received the same cordial assistance from the Resident, Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens, during my second visit to Sattara, as I experienced during the first. The Resident's position has become much changed by recent events, and his duties are now more extensive, arduous, and responsible. Some addition to his establishment is called for, and the personal remuneration which he now receives appears to me insufficient; but, on this subject, I shall shortly submit my opinion in a separate minute.

17. I cannot conclude without recording my conviction, that the measures which have been taken to give importance to the accession of the Raja of Sattara are calculated to produce the best effect throughout the country, and to impress the Raja most favourably towards the British Government. The thousands of people who repaired from a distance to witness the ceremony of his inauguration appeared by their demeanour to be highly gratified at the event; and by the attention shewn to his Highness on such an occasion, it will have the effect, which I anticipated, of giving weight to his Government, and enabling him to perform the duties attached to his station with confidence in its stability.

18. These proceedings to be submitted to the Secret Committee as early as practicable.

(Signed) J. R. CARNAC.

Mahableschwur,
25th November 1839.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Dated 28th November 1839.

(Subscribed to by the Board.)

1. In my minute of the 25th instant, I stated, that I considered that the Resident's establishment was insufficient, and that, with reference to his increased duties and responsibility, he is inadequately remunerated.

2. Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens's present letter anticipates the first of these subjects. He merely represents, however, the insufficiency of his establish-

Minute
by the Governor,
28 Nov. 1839.

ment generally ; but, I think, he should be requested to report to what extent it ought to be augmented. The Secretary in attendance will request him to do so.

SATTARA.
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Governor
28 Nov. 1839

*3. The Resident suggests, that the increased expense shall be borne by the Jagheerdars, on the ground that the increased duties devolving on him are chiefly occasioned by their being placed entirely under the protection and control of the British Government.

4. Some weight is due to this ; but still I doubt the expediency of the suggestion. The Jagheerdars are certainly likely to be considerable gainers by the recent change ; but it must be remembered, that we have allowed the Raja to retain undiminished all the rights, claims, and advantages, which the former Raja derived from these chiefs. I think, therefore, the Sattara Government should provide for the additional establishment which may be necessary, or allow the expense to be deducted from the amount he receives annually from these chiefs. Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens's opinion should, however, be called for on this subject, when the reference suggested in the second paragraph is made.

5. In regard to the Resident's allowances, he now receives six hundred rupees per mensem in addition to his military allowances ; which seems, as I before have stated, quite inadequate to his present position.

6. Although the arrangement in regard to the Jagheerdars is the principal cause of this increase of duties, the increase will be general ; for, with reference to the present Raja, the Resident's position, for some time to come, will approximate to what Captain Grant's was in the time of the former Raja.

7. I therefore propose, that we should recommend to the Governor General of India, that an additional allowance of five hundred rupees per mensem should be granted to Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens ; and that, with reference to the extent of duties and the eminent ability with which he has performed them, this increase be made retrospective to the date of the treaty with the present Raja, namely, the 4th September last.

8. I am however of opinion, that this allowance should be made personal, and not general. When the affairs of Sattara are reduced to order, and the numerous disputes prevailing among the Jagheerdars themselves, and between them and the Government, are settled, the Resident's duties will then become less onerous, and his successor may be placed on the old footing.

9. It may become a question, whether the increased expense should be borne by the British or the Sattara Government ; but this may be left to the determination of the Governor General of India.

(Signed) J. R. CARNAC.

28th November 1839.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR,

Dated 29th November 1839.

(Concurred in by the Board.)

Minute
by the Governor
29 Nov. 1839.

1. From personal observation I can state, that this reform is highly desirable. The corps alluded to consists of about 1,100 men ; from whom, I think, it would be exceedingly difficult to select four hundred efficient men fit for duty : the remainder consist of aged and worn-out men and boys. The expense incurred is enormous, and the reform proposed will combine both efficiency and economy.

2. I think the aid solicited by the Raja should be extended to him: My only doubt is, whether a separate officer ought not to be granted ; but, as the present proposition is more economical, I am willing to accede to it. The two Native officers applied for may be granted.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute
by the Governor,
29 Nov. 1839.

3. For the reasons stated in the last paragraph of Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens's letter, I think the Staff-officer at Sattara should be exempted from the rule alluded to.

4. One benefit which will result from these measures is, that it will enable us, on an emergency, to dispense with a considerable portion of our own troops ordinarily stationed at Sattara. When this local corps has become efficient, the Raja will not require so large a number of our troops for the protection of his country.

5. I am happy to observe, that the Raja proposes to provide otherwise for such men as may be found unfit for service in the corps on its new footing.

6. It should be observed to the Resident, that great care and caution should be observed at first in endeavouring to make this corps efficient. The men should be kindly treated, and not too much harassed by drill, but gradually brought into a reasonable degree of discipline.

7. Copy of this letter should be sent to the Governor General and to the Secret Committee.

(Signed) J. R. CARNAC.

29th November 1839.

MINUTE BY MR. G. W. ANDERSON,

Dated 29th November 1839.

For the present, I would not advise proceedings to be taken in the Supreme Court, for the possession of the vessel on the part of the present Raja.

But I think it would be advisable, for the interests of the present Raja, and to prevent perhaps difficult questions of law, to formally declare all property the late Raja possessed at the time of his dethronement to be the property of the present Raja; and then, out of it, to make such an appropriation to the late Raja, as may either have been promised, or that it may be found just to give him. This done, it would then be easy to determine the course to be pursued in regard to the vessel, the subject of the present discussion.

(Signed) G. W. ANDERSON.

29th November 1839.

Minute by
James Farish,
4 Dec. 1839.

MINUTE BY MR. JAMES FARISH,

Dated 3d December 1839.

I have only to record my concurrence in the measures adopted at the installation of the Raja, and for the removal of the ex-Raja to Benares, as well as on the several measures since proposed to be adopted.

(Signed) J. FARISH.

3d December 1839.

Minute by Mr.
W. Anderson,
4 Dec. 1839.

MINUTE BY MR. G. W. ANDERSON,

Dated 4th December 1839.

I entirely concur in the measures taken by the Honourable the Governor, on his visit to Sattara for the purpose of the installation of the Raja. Every step seems to have been most appropriate; and, I do not doubt, the most beneficial effects will result from the part taken by the Honourable the Governor on the occasion.

In respect to the property which was found in the Palaces and the State on the dethronement, I have, in another minute, expressed an opinion, that such property should be at once declared to be the property of the new Raja, from which such appropriation should be made to the ex-Raja as may either have been promised or may seem just.

SATTAR.
PAPERS
Minute by M
G. W. Ander:
4 Dec. 1839

It would seem from the Acting Advocate-General's letter, that we have the power to make this declaration ; and I believe that, by making it, many perplexing questions will be saved.

(Signed) G. W. ANDERSON.

14th December 1839.

MINUTES OF THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR GENERAL,

*Dated 29th April 1837.*Minute by the
29 April 1837.

I have detained the papers connected with the alleged delinquencies of the Raja of Sattara for a longer period than I had intended, from the daily expectation of such further information as might enable us to form a better opinion than we can at present of the measures which may best be adopted.

The proceedings of the Commission have left no doubt in my mind of the guilt of the Raja, to the extent, at least, of countenancing an attempt to seduce from their allegiance two Native officers of the British army. The evidence is clear, as well directly from the officers themselves, as by the confirmation of many collateral circumstances; and it is in no degree weakened by the defence which the Raja has himself set up. At the same time, the evidence before the Commission would lead to the belief, that the plot (if matured and regularly concerted plot there were) was confined to the narrowest limits, and that the Raja, in weakness or in folly (almost, as is insinuated in some of these papers, in insanity), lent himself to visions, and to schemes of ambition and disturbance, with no clear or definite meaning and intention.

But he is no less guilty; and hostility to the British power, to whom he is indebted for every thing he has, is monstrous and unpardonable. Sir Robert Grant appears to me to lay it down more broadly than I should admit, that, from fear of imputations on the purity of our motives, we are, in cases such as these, to abstain from the plain course of resuming to ourselves territories and power, which those who have been by us entrusted with them are endeavouring to use to our destruction; and I see no reason why such treason should not recoil upon those who contrive it, and be made, at the same time, a source of additional strength to ourselves.

My impression upon reading the first papers was, that the reigning Raja being guilty, and every presumption existing that the remainder of his family and the great majority of his Court were innocent and unconscious of his evil doings, the best and more moderate course would be, to set the present Raja aside, and put his brother, or other best qualified member of his family, in his stead; taking, however, the opportunity of reducing the amount of military force which should be maintained by any Raja, and providing for the support of a body of horse, under British officers, from the revenues of the Sattara State. But the later papers have tended very much to shake the confidence which I was disposed to have in the innocence of Appa Sahib, the brother of the Raja, and of others who have exercised influence in the Government of that state. In the petition of the mother of Govind Row, there is an air of earnestness and of truth which, at least, would justify further investigation; and if the whole of the Raja's family should be seriously and directly implicated in acts of treason, I should not hesitate to recommend that they be at once set aside, and that the territory be annexed to the British empire.

The case, however, is not yet ripe for decision; and I should not have ventured to write upon it at present, if it were not that the Right Honourable the Governor seems to doubt upon the course which he should pursue, pending the receipt of instructions from the Supreme Government.

If

If the Council, therefore, should concur with me in the general views which I have taken of this case, I think that they should be communicated to the Government of Bombay, with instructions, that such investigations be pursued or instituted, as may confirm or expose the allegations contained in the petition of the mother of Govind Row. I think, too, that the Government of Bombay should be required to put us in possession of the details of the disputes which have existed between the Raja and his Jagheerdars, and of the complaints which he made thereupon, and that the prisoners must, for the present, be detained in confinement as state prisoners.

SATTARA
PAPER

Minute by the
Governor General
29 April 1837

29 April 1837.

(Signed) AUCKLAND.

I concur.

(Signed) A. Ross.

I entirely concur in the measure now proposed to be taken.

(Signed) W. MORISON,
H. SHAKESPEAR. (*see separate note.*)

MINUTE BY MR. H. SHAKESPEAR,

Dated 11th May 1837.

Minute by
Mr. H. Shakespear
11 May 1837

ON THE SATTARA CONSPIRACY

I cannot agree with the Bombay Government, that it is expedient to adopt a middle course in this case.

If the Raja is guilty, he is guilty of an offence with which there should be no compromise. The Bombay Government convict the Raja of attempting to corrupt the fidelity of our troops, and of plotting the subversion of our rule (to say nothing of an item in the plot, according to the Brahmin's account, that the European troops were to be got rid of by bribing the bakers to poison their bread, and yet propose to leave him in the possession of power to renew these attempts, whenever his plans may be better organized than they were on the late occasion.

For my part, I am not satisfied with the evidence against the Raja, and would therefore acquit him altogether, instead of adopting the half-measure which, in my humble judgment, even supposing him to be guilty, is neither reconcilable with public justice nor with sound policy. It is, no doubt, difficult to divest the affair of all suspicion: but when we reflect on the utter want of basis (as far as we yet know) on which the plot could have been founded, the improbable manner in which the Brahmin (Untajee) commenced his seduction of the Soobadars, the total unworthiness of his evidence, the discrepancies between the stories first told by the Soobadars and their subsequent depositions before the Commissioners, and the absurd terms in which the Raja is said to have announced to the Soobadars the signs of coming events, I confess I look in vain for any thing tangible or solid, in the shape of proof, for my mind to rest upon.

I do not understand on what principle the Commissioners, as stated in the ninth paragraph of their report, abstained from cross-questioning the Native officers, as to the discrepancies in their original depositions compared with those given before them. In all judicial inquiries much weight is justly attached to such comparisons, it being supposed that a witness is more likely to speak correctly when first examined, while particulars are fresh in his memory, than after the lapse of time. The Commissioners say: "A process of this kind would undoubtedly detect various discrepancies, omissions, and additions, on the part of the witnesses; but only such as, we think, might be expected from persons narrating events occupying a period of nearly three months, and consequently not, in our opinion, affecting the general merits

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute by
H. Shakespear,
11 May 1887.

"of the case." The Commissioners go on to observe, that their confidence in the evidence of the Native officers was corroborated by one of them having kept a journal. On a reference, however, to that journal, it will also be found not to agree in some particulars with their depositions.

I shall content myself by supplying, on one or two (as they appear to me) material points, the omission of the Commissioners, in support of the opinion I have proved, that the evidence of the Soobadars is not entitled to credit.

I cannot, however, omit to notice, in the first place, the extreme improbability of their story, as to the commencement of their intercourse with the Brahmin. We learn from Capt. Liddell's evidence, that the Brahmin was in the habit of frequenting the camp and his premises two years before. Is it likely that, under such circumstances, the Brahmin should be an utter stranger to the Soobadars or the Soobadars to him? Is it not incredible, that without the slightest previous communication, without sounding his man or feeling his way at all, a perfect stranger should propose to another perfect stranger to join in a conspiracy, and by repeated acts, susceptible of proof, to place his life at the mercy of the former? This remark applies equally to all three Native officers who were invited, without the slightest ceremony or proposition, to take a share in the Brahmin's most treasonable proposals.

Then, as to discrepancies, it is deserving of notice, that in their first depositions, the Native officers made no mention of a servant having given them pawn on their first visit to the Dewan; nor is the servant alluded to in the Soobadar Goolzar Missur's journal.

In detailing their visit to the Raja, the Soobadars, in their first examination, said he was alone (and so it is also entered in the Soobadars' journal); in their subsequent depositions, that there was a woman in the room. Shoogolam says, the Dewan asked who she was: the Raja said she was an old woman, and ordered her to go away. Goolzar Missur says, she ran away on their entering the apartment.

In regard to the Dewan's servant (who gave evidence), the omission of so material a circumstance as his being a witness to their first interview with the Dewan cannot fail to excite, in the mind of any one accustomed to sift Native evidence, a suspicion that he has been brought forward to fill up a link in the chain of swearing against the Dewan, which, without his evidence, might have been insufficient.

I suspect the old woman was introduced upon the stage for the same purpose. Had opportunity been given, there would have been no difficulty in getting an old woman to swear that she saw the Soobadars enter the Raja's apartment, and then vanished; which would have been just enough, in a political inquiry, to amount to corroborative evidence.

A good deal of stress is laid by the Commissioners on the Soobadars stating that the Raja was said to be desponding on account of a letter received from Captain Hand; that rumours were afloat of a disturbance at Sattara, the fact of Captain Hand having written so to an officer of the palace having been ascertained. But it is to be observed, that the Soobadars learned this from the Brahmin, of whose intimacy with persons of the palace there seems no reason to doubt; and, if my suspicions are well-founded, that this intrigue has been got up by the Brahmin and the Soobadars, the information given by the former to the latter amounts to nothing at all.

If it is asked, why I suppose such an intrigue possible? I answer, that it appears from Colonel Lodwick's letter, paragraph seven, of the 13th August 1886, that attempts had been made some months before to prejudice the Resident against the Raja, but that, notwithstanding his informant* was highly respectable, he attached no importance to the information. He did not even think it deserving of report to his Government, though it was apparently almost as susceptible of proof as this story of the Brahmin.

From this I infer, that there are not wanting persons about the palace inimical to the Raja, who would rejoice at his degradation, and who would not hesitate

* At page 70 of the Commissioners' report, we find this informant to be an intimate acquaintance of the Raja's brother, Appa Sahib, who is on bad terms with the Raja.

hesitate to effect it at any cost. It is with great reluctance that I have brought myself to the persuasion, that the Soobadars are parties to such a conspiracy. I would fain have thought that they might have been imposed upon by the Brahmin, and that he might have passed off some persons as the Dewan and Raja upon them; but they have identified the Dewan, and I believe him as little culpable as the Raja.

Having gone through all the papers, I have been induced to record my opinion upon them while fresh in my memory. Should the further inquiries suggested by the Governor General lead to the production of less exceptionable evidence of the Raja's guilt, my opinion will of course be open to revision; but, as far as the evidence now goes, I am bound to say, I deem it wholly insufficient for the conviction and punishment either of the Raja or the Dewan.

I concur with the Governor General, that instructions should be sent, not only to inquire into the allegations contained in the petition said to have been forwarded to Bombay by the Dewan's mother, but also to ascertain, in the first place, whether such a petition was really sent by her. It is dated the 13th December 1836, and was received on the 6th March last. Mr. Secretary Wathen, in a marginal note, says, it came by the Poona post, and "it appears" as if the person sending it had been obliged to wait a favourable opportunity "for sending it without observation."

The Bombay Government seem to entertain no doubt whatever that the petition is a genuine document; yet, really, when we consider that it is nothing less than a mother's evidence to the guilt of her son, some little hesitation may be allowed to receiving it without proof of its authenticity.

(Signed) H. SHAKESPEAR.

11th May 1837.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR GENERAL,

Dated 20th May 1837.

Minute by the
Governor General
20 May 1837

Mr. Shakespear's examination of the evidence taken before the Commissioners at Sattar* has not altered my opinion, or convinced me that any doubt should be entertained of the guilt of the Raja; at least, to the extent stated in my former minute. He has, indeed, pointed out certain contradictions in the evidence taken; and I might perhaps wish, with him, that in some instances cross-examination had been carried further, and that the investigation had been more complete; but I am afraid that we shall in vain have to seek, in any complicated inquiry, a total absence of contradiction in a long chain of native evidence, and I should always with extreme unwillingness adopt a conclusion drawn from the perusal of a written report, in rejection of one to which an honest and well-constituted tribunal has been led upon a *verá voce* examination of witnesses. In the present instance, the Commissioners consisted of officers of high character and experience, the inquiry was patiently, laboriously, and dispassionately conducted, and the verdict has been confidently given. But a clue to a new circumstance as bearing upon this case has been found, and it is desirable that the inquiry be resumed, in the hope that light may be thrown upon whatever is yet obscure in regard to it. To this extent I agree with Mr. Shakespear; and in revising the draft of letter to the Government of Bombay, I have endeavoured to shape it so that it may meet his views, as well as those of the other members of the Council.

(Signed) AUCKLAND.

20th May 1837.

Mr. Shakespear's Minute upon the Sattara conspiracy.

SATTARA
PAPERS

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR GENERAL,

*Dated 23d December 1838.*Minute by the
Governor General,
23 Dec. 1838.

1. I have carefully considered the voluminous papers* which have now been submitted in this case, and proceed, in conformity with the intimation in the recent despatch of the Honourable Court, to state my opinion on the whole subject. In doing this, I am glad to find myself relieved from the necessity of entering at any length on the details of the several charges against the Raja, by the clear and able summaries of the evidence upon each charge, which are contained in the minutes of the late Right Honourable the Governor of Bombay, and the other members of that Government.

2. I may premise but a few words on the feeling of the Bombay Government, that there has been inconsistency, on the part of the Supreme Government, in its views of the manner in which the case against the Raja generally should be treated. Perhaps such an imputation might be urged with some apparent truth, although, in fact, the views of the Governor General in Council were only varied as the case gradually assumed a new complexion. I may refer to the minutes recorded by me in April and October 1837, as proving that the further inquiries, which were authorized about the former of these periods, were intended chiefly to ascertain what members of the royal family were implicated with him in the offence of tampering with the Sepoys, and that a marked distinction was taken between investigations bearing directly on that one original charge, and those subsequently instituted, in so many different quarters, on other collateral topics. When these new investigations were proposed to be extended from the neighbourhood of Sattara itself to numerous and distant Native states; when, on the supposition of concealed plots, requisitions for evidence, marking a general suspicion and mistrust, were sent to all parts of India, as the alarm spread of vague accusation, and acts of extraordinary rigour were resorted to for the purpose of obtaining evidence, the proceedings could scarcely be looked upon without apprehension, and the Supreme Government felt itself bound to check their progress. It has been a satisfaction to me to learn, that the instructions which were issued in this spirit have now been sanctioned by the high authority of the Honourable Court.

3. The grave inconveniences of a course of anxious and minute scrutiny into the possible plots and intrigues of the Native states are indeed very obvious. The futility of the schemes themselves, and the diversion of time and attention, in the search after them, from the better objects of Government, are points that need not be insisted on. Nor can it be necessary to dwell on the unworthy labour of following out the petty and intricate ramifications of such intrigues, or on the questionable expedients which must be employed, in the effort to expose the true meaning and intention of proceedings covered with mystery and obscurity. I would more strongly fix attention on the effect which seems to be justly dreaded from investigations of this kind, by the Honourable Court, of injuring the character of our Government for moderation, security, and strength. In this instance of the Sattara investigations, as observed by me in a former minute, "in an affair of no real importance to our power, the idea of mistrust and insecurity, on the part of the British Government, may have been spread from Rajpootana to Madras and Malabar." And after all these evils and risks shall have been incurred, and the investigations are at length brought to a close, when all is probed, and detected, and laid bare, the serious practical difficulty remains, by which we must in this case, though perhaps, from incidental circumstances, in a less degree than on other occasions, be embarrassed. It being known that the secret has been discovered, it may be impolitic not to take notice of that, from which, had we continued in real or affected ignorance of it, we should have sustained no harm. Yet, by what process, and with what impression upon the public mind, is the guilty state

* Report of the final inquiries on the proceedings of the Raja of Sattara.

state to be tried, condemned, and punished? When a great Government, like that of the British in India, directs its vengeance, however justly, against a helpless dependent neighbour, and when it cannot avoid the appearance of being prosecutor and judge in its own cause, we must not be surprised if its motives and actions are widely misconstrued. And how can a suspected prince be fairly tried in his own dominions if left in the possession of sovereign power? Yet, can he be brought to trial, without at least the plausible imputation of prejudice and injustice, after the open ignominy of a deposition, however avowedly provisional and temporary?

SATTAR
PAPERS

Minute by
Governor Genl
23 Dec. 1837

4. All these are points which ought to be seriously thought of, before any of our Indian Governments commits itself in measures of inquiry regarding a supposed treasonable conduct on the part of the Native princes connected with it. In the present case, however, the difficulties to which I alluded, in whatever degree they may exist in it, must, I apprehend, in some manner or other be encountered; for I am well satisfied, that the inquiry has been carried through to results, which it would not be wise or fitting that we should treat otherwise than as demanding a firm strictness and vigour of procedure.

5. In my minute of the 27th April 1837, I observed, "The proceedings of the Commission have left no doubt in my mind of the guilt of the Raja, to the extent, at least, of countenancing an attempt to seduce from their allegiance two Native officers of the British army;" and it was added in another part of the same paper, "I see no reason why such treason should not recoil upon those who contrived it, and be made, at the same time, a source of additional strength to ourselves." It is now also my painful duty to state, that I am compelled to concur in the unanimous opinion of the Government of Bombay, that the two other principal charges preferred against the Raja, and especially the first of them, appear, from the evidence obtained by the acting Resident at Sattara, to be fully established, namely—

- 1st. His treasonous intercourse with the authorities at Goa.
- 2d. His treasonous intercourse with the ex-Raja of Nagpore.

6. However wild and nearly incredible the intrigues alleged in these two cases seem to be, the proof of their existence appears to be no less clear and irrefragable. That the Portuguese of Goa should wrest India from the British power; that Appa Sahib, living almost destitute and in restraint, should raise twenty lacs to enable the Portuguese to restore him to the throne of Nagpore; that Portugal, France, and Austria, are to contribute their battalions to the support of Sattara—all these things may look rather like the dream of delirium than the overt machinations of treason. Yet that the ignorant ambition and malignity of the Raja have been duped by insane speculations and deceitful promises of this character, there remains, I fear, little room to doubt.

7. It is shewn, likewise, that the Raja, so far from having a just sense of the favours which have been heaped upon him by the British Government, is bitterly discontented with his position, that he claims the original greatness of the house of his ancestor Sevajee, that he or his confidants and nearest partizans complain of faith having been broken with them, and that they have even the shameful ingratitude of accusing his early and steady benefactor, Mr. Elphinstone, of deception and falsehood.

8. It is principally by these two circumstances, of the high offence of tampering with our Native troops, and the insatiable and reckless ambition by which he appears to be guided, which would render any middle or amicable course of proceeding with him probably quite fruitless, that I think that the mode of dealing with this case is rendered more direct and plain. We are called upon, I feel, by very strong considerations of propriety and expediency, to bring the guilt of the Raja to the test of a final proof, by the best and most just process which can be devised; and then, if he should have been unable to exculpate himself, to remove him from a throne of which he will have shewn himself to be eminently undeserving.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute by the
Governor General,
23 Dec. 1838.

9. The extent to which we are committed, by guarantees of protection to individuals who have given information against the Raja, merits attention, though but in a minor degree, as an argument for not seeking to leave him in the possession of an authority, which it would too probably be his object to employ for their ruin, on every opening that might present itself to him.

10. I would by no means subscribe to the opinion which would appear to be supported in some of the minutes of the members of the Bombay Government, that magnanimity in pardoning an offence of a weak ally is not, in different cases which may be readily contemplated, to be at all viewed as a suitable and expedient policy. Here, however, where there are several distinct acts of offence, one of them of the gravest nature, and all springing from a deep-rooted spirit of resistance and aversion to the British supremacy, the conclusion is, as I have avowed, forced upon me, that measures of leniency and conciliation would be perfectly inapplicable.

11. It is not necessary to establish it as a fixed rule, "that the British Government cannot depose any prince not taken *flagrante delicto*, except through the medium of a formal trial." But in this instance, if the Raja should eventually demand to be confronted with the witnesses against him and to be placed on his trial, or even if he should not himself make that demand, but the written explanation or defence, which I would propose in the first instance to require from him, should seem, as it very possibly may, to leave a necessity for some further proceeding, there may perhaps be no alternative to such a mode of final examination and disposal of the case, however cumbrous, dilatory, and inconvenient it must be felt to be. Commissioners of high rank and character from the other Presidencies, if necessary, might be assembled for the purpose. Detailed orders would in such a case, if we are forced to the measure, be necessary on the precise mode of trial, and all the other circumstances attending the procedure, to which allusion is made in the letters from Bombay. But it would be premature to enter at all upon those points at present.

12. As the first step, I would, as suggested by Sir Robert Grant, request that the Raja should be furnished with a written statement, embodying a full and clear detail of the facts connected with the several charges, and of the names (with any reservations which may be absolutely required for the safety of the party) of the witnesses by whom they are proved, with a notice of the circumstances under which the evidence was obtained, and call for from him, within a certain reasonable time to be fixed, a similar written statement of whatever he may desire to urge in his own behalf. The Acting Resident will, of course, take care, by every means in his power, to see that his guarantees to witnesses are, in letter and spirit, fully maintained.

13. I should think the above measure, as a preliminary one, preferable to the course of giving to the Raja a memorandum of each distinct portion of oral or written evidence against him, the result of which might be much confused, and unnecessary prolixity in the reply. When that reply shall have reached me, I would judge from the tenor of it, whether it would be advisable to go on at once to any further proceeding, or to await a further communication from the Honourable Court; to whom, of course, as well as to the Supreme Government in India, the reply would be immediately communicated.

14. Should the Raja be found finally guilty, I would not (to use the expression of my former minutes) "abstain from the plain course of resuming to ourselves territories and power, which those who have been by us intrusted with them are endeavouring to use to our destruction." There is, in this case, no one to whom the sovereignty could be transferred, excepting Appa Sahib, the Raja's brother, and there is nothing in his character or claims to entitle him to the immense and gratuitous advantage. On this point, however, I would solicit the special and earliest instructions of the Honourable Court, who will now have all the arguments on this part of the case before them. Copies of all the proceedings

* See paragraph 54, minute of Sir R. Grant of May 31, 1838.

proceedings and minutes at Bombay have been already communicated to the Honourable Court; and I have to request, that a copy of this minute, and of the instructions which may be founded upon it, may also be transmitted by the next steam despatch.

SATTAR
PAPER:
Minute by
Governor Ge
23 Dec. 18

15. I think it right to request from the Governor in Council at Bombay, a brief separate report of all that is established respecting the connections of Dr. Milne with this affair, in which, as an old servant and pensioner of the Government, he appears to have taken a very improper part, with their opinion, as to the notice which his conduct may deserve.

16. I cordially concur in the applause which has been bestowed by the Governor in Council on the ability and industry with which Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens has discharged the duty imposed upon him, as Acting Resident at Sattara, in the prosecution and report of these investigations.

(Signed) AUCKLAND.

Simla, Dec. 23, 1838.

MINUTE BY THE GOVERNOR GENERAL,

Dated 29th December 1838.

Minute by t
Governor Ger
29 Dec. 183

1. I have attentively considered the new reference made to me upon the Sattara case, and feel very great difficulty in deciding upon it.

2. The reasons urged by the Resident, and concurred in by the Governor in Council, are sufficient to satisfy me, that it would not be right to persevere in the course which I had previously recommended, and to present to the Raja a written statement of the charges and the proofs against him, calling upon him for an answer. It is anticipated by the Resident, that this course would lay the Government open to such proceedings on the part of the Raja and his advisers, as could only lead to fresh embarrassments, and would, at the same time, expose every witness whose evidence has been given to cruel persecution.

3. The course which has been next recommended as open to the Government is, the suspension of the Raja from his functions of sovereignty, and the appointment of a commission to sit in judgment upon him. The suspension of a person so placed as is the Raja of Sattara, against whom a strong *prima facie* case has been established, and whose conduct appears from every report to be unscrupulously vindictive, seems, in the event of a new trial to be decided upon, to be essential to the protection of witnesses, and to the fairness of proceeding on the part of the accusation. Yet the measure would wear a harsh appearance, and be argued as a predetermination to convict. Notwithstanding, however, these objections, it appears to be essential, as a preliminary to any proceeding bearing the character of a final trial.

4. The tribunal for trial might, perhaps, be best constituted, by the appointment of three of the most impartial and experienced members of the services, whom it would probably be expedient to take from Madras and Bengal. But I confess that, looking to the manifold inconveniences of such a mode of trial, to the measures of importance and to the subjects of interest and excitement by which the Government is already occupied, and especially, to the possibility that no part of this course would be approved by the Honourable Court, I cannot bring myself to recommend its immediate adoption.

5. There is inconvenience, no doubt, in the postponement of a decisive measure; but this inconvenience would be as nothing, compared with that of the announcement of a measure such as has been proposed, with any hazard before us of its being ultimately interrupted and rejected.

6. I am the more impressed with this feeling, as, while I am myself satisfied of the treachery and extravagant machinations of the Raja, I can conceive

SAFTARA
PAPERS.Minute by the
Governor General,
29 Dec. 1838.

sue of evidence; or that an excuse may be found for the acts of the Raja in their folly and wildness; or that the scandal, excitement, and hazard of failure, with which the measure proposed would be attended, might lead to its rejection, in favour of some mitigated proceeding of reproof, and warning, and security. The general view taken by the Court, in the first instance, of this case, was (as expressed in a despatch received from them some few months back) decidedly unfavourable to a protracted investigation of it. The impression made on them by the voluminous evidence since collected has not been communicated, nor have I yet received an intimation, which I would now especially request, of the opinion formed on it by the Honourable the President in Council. The entire evidence was sent home with despatches from the Bombay Government, which were probably forwarded in September last. My conclusions on that evidence, and my suggestions on the mode of disposing of the case, were conveyed to the Court in a despatch of the 1st October, and the present reports of the Resident, and minutes of the members of the Bombay Government, were transmitted from that Presidency by the mail of December. Under these circumstances the Home Authorities will have had the whole subject fully placed before them; and while the statement of their sentiments on it may be expected at no remote date, I am satisfied, reluctant as I am to leave the Bombay Government subject to the inconvenience of petty intrigues, that it will be on every account prudent and fitting, to refrain from a proceeding which might be censured as premature and unsatisfactory, and from which a retreat could scarcely be otherwise than very discreditable and embarrassing.

7. I would therefore submit these observations, by the steam-packet now under preparation, for the immediate orders of the Honourable Court, requesting their attention to the opinions which I have indicated, and soliciting such instructions as it may be deemed expedient to communicate, for the guidance of the Local Government, on the points to which they relate, as well as on all others connected with the mode of trial—if a final trial should be judged proper—and with the policy to be observed in the event of the Raja being found guilty. The Court may, if they deem it fit, forward their instructions direct, so as to save time, to the Governor in Council at Bombay, in whose anxiety for a complete and early settlement of the question they will, no doubt, fully participate.

8 A copy of this minute will also be forwarded without delay to his Honour in Council at Bombay, and to Calcutta for the consideration of the Honourable the President in Council.

(Signed) AUCKLAND.

Camp at Lahore,
29th December 1838.Minute by Mr.
C. Robertson,
3 March 1839.

MINUTE BY MR. T. C. ROBERTSON,

Dated 8th March 1839.

It would be superfluous to attempt to add any thing to the masterly analysis of the evidence collected in this extraordinary case, contained in the various minutes of the late lamented Governor of Bombay, especially that of the 5th May 1838.

It has occurred to me, however, after perusing the voluminous records before us, that I may lighten the labour of my Colleagues, by merely bringing the leading particulars of the transaction into one continuous narrative.

The most prominent actor throughout this long and zealously-maintained intrigue was a Mahratta, named Firthswaroop Rajeshree Nagoba Nana Waeed, who is designated in the evidence by the two last of this string of names, being called generally Nana Waeed, or, more briefly, Nana. He is also called Nago Deorao in the Bombay minutes.

He was the son of the court physician at Poona,* and his father seems to have

* Sir R. Grant, paragraph 31.

SATTARA
PAPERSMinute by E
T. C. Robert
8 March 1885

have stood well in the ex-Peishwa's favour. On the fall of that potentate, Nana Waeed became a soldier of fortune, and served for some time in one of our corps of Irregular Horse at Poona.* He accompanied, either as an independent adventurer, or as one of a Risala, the expedition which went against Kittoor towards the end of 1824.†

Within a few months after the fall of Kittoor,‡ which took place on the 5th December 1824, he must have turned his steps towards Sattara, where he had a maternal uncle, named Ballojee Punt,§ who introduced him to one with whom he was on terms of intimacy, and who seems to have been the parent of the plot which we are now engaged in unravelling. This person was the Swamee of Sunkeshwur,|| a man of great reputed sanctity, and consequent influence in the Southern Mahratta provinces, where he held a small domain, consisting of ten villages, in the immediate vicinity of the temple which stands below the Ghauts, on the road leading from Goa to Sattara. He died, it may be as well to remark, in April 1837. At this meeting, in the early part of 1825, a person named Atmaram Bhutt¶ seems first to have started the idea of treating with the authorities at Goa, by talking of his own acquaintance with a Portuguese medical practitioner, whom the witnesses called Irkool, but whose real name is Herculano Nora.

The Swamee, catching at the hint, immediately despatched Nana Waeed with Atmaram into the Goa territory, where, at a village called Chirkee, they met Raojee Kotenees, who afterwards became one of the most active agents in the intrigue. Nana Waeed** does not seem to have gone beyond Chiklee, but Atmaram went on to Rybunder, a suburb of Goa, where he had a meeting with Irkool, and seems to have spoken to him of his wish to have an interview with the Viceroy.

What answer he received does not very clearly appear;†† but he and Nana returning to Sunkeshwur, reported so favourably of the disposition of the Portuguese, that the latter was immediately deputed to Sattara, to arrange for a meeting between the Swamee and the Raja.

In June 1825 the Swamee proceeded to Sattara; and then it appears, from the evidence of Nana's brother-in-law and inseparable attendant, Balkoba, the foundation of all the subsequent proceedings was laid, and Nana was constituted the common agent of both the Raja and the Swamee.

The Swamee passed three months at Sattara;‡‡ and such was the reverence he was held in, that one of the witnesses speaks of the Raja as actually worshipping him.

The interview took place at the commencement of a great festival§§ that is held every twelfth year at Nassick, and lasts for a whole twelvemonth. The Raja set out for it on the 23d October 1825, having previously given Nana 600 rupees, and deputed him to Poona on a mission of an uncertain object.|||| The object, whatever it was, does not seem to have been effected; and Nana returning to Sattara, remained there but for a short time, and then proceeded to join the Swamee at Kolapore, not far from Sunkeshwur.

It is stated, that he was at Kolapore when Mr. Baber came there with a military force;¶¶ and this is found to have actually happened in December 1825.

During the next ensuing two years little seems to have been done.

On the 11th October 1827, Don Manoel de Portugal e Castro (a nobleman in the interest of Don Miguel) announced to the Government of Bombay his arrival as Viceroy of Goa. In the evidence he is always called Dominwell, while his major-domo, who also performs a conspicuous part, is designated as Mugdoo or Mudamore.

In the course of the year 1829, several valuable presents were sent from Sattara and delivered to the new Viceroy.*** It is difficult to fix the exact time of

* Deposition of Wassandees, No. 1.

† Deposition of Deojee, No. 2.

‡ Sir R. Grant, para. 67.

** Deposition of Raojee, No. 22.

†† Sir R. Grant, para. 67.

||| Deposition of Balkoba, para. 3.

† Sir R. Grant, para. 180.

§ Deposition of Balkoba, No. 25.

¶ Deposition of Balkoba, No. 25.

†† Deposition of Balkoba, No. 25, para. 1.

§§ Sir R. Grant, para. 184.

¶¶ Sir R. Grant, para. 186.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute by Mr.
T. C. Robertson,
8 March 1839.

of this renewal of intercourse with Goa; but that it took place in December 1829, or January 1830, is probable*, because Balkoba states, that about two months afterwards, in the month of Palgoon following, he was at Renavee, a place about one hundred and fifty miles south-east of Sattara, when a total eclipse of the moon occurred: as it actually did on the 9th March 1830.

About two months after this Nana Waheed returned to Sattara, and was again deputed, along with Nana Fatuck (since dead), the son of the important witness Hurry Punt, and Narrain Bhutt, to Goa.

There Herculano and Raojee Kotenees (an inhabitant of the Goa territory, before alluded to as one of the first agents in the business),† demanded some written credential, in proof of their being empowered to treat with the Viceroy.‡ Nana Fatuck returned to communicate this demand to his father, Hurry Punt, who immediately told it to Rowlojee Naik, a Jemadar of Sowars in the service of the Raja, who introduced him to the said Raja, when it was agreed to invite Herculan and Raojee to come to Sattara.

In June 1831, the mission accordingly proceeded from Goa to Sattara,§ and there had a meeting at night with the Raja, at which, beside the parties, there were present five individuals, two of whom, Raojee Kotenees and Hurry Punt, have given evidence to the fact.

Little conversation passed on the occasion; but a note was delivered by Herculano from the Viceroy to the Raja, while the latter assured the Envoy that Nana was his confidential agent.¶

At this time annual pensions were assigned to all the members of the Mundullee, or cabal, amounting to the sum of 3,200 rupees.¶¶

Costly presents were at this time bestowed by the Raja himself, in person,** on Herculano and the others of that party. This fact is proved by eight witnesses; among whom is the banker, who kept the accounts of the expenditure thus incurred.

In December 1832, the sum of 2,500 rupees was paid from the Raja's funds, on the agent Nana's account, to his brother-in-law Balkoba and Morapunt Josee.†† This is proved by the evidence of the banker Teejeeram and others, as well as by the entry in the banker's books.

During the next two years‡‡ the plot does not seem to have advanced much, though frequent visits were paid by Nana to Goa in that interim;§§ but in 1835, there appears to have been a great renewal of intercourse, and an increased outlay on account of presents.

It is proved by the books and evidence of the banker Teejeeram and others,¶¶¶ that, in April of this year, 1,800 rupees were advanced from the Raja's funds to Raojee Kotenees, the Native agent on the part of the Goa authorities.

In September of the same year a doubt seems to have crossed the mind of the Raja and his advisers at Sattara, as to the trustworthiness of their agent Nana; and, in consequence, a person named Mahdeo Row Sirkey was deputed to Goa, to test the truth of what the others had related.¶¶¶¶

This person, a near relation of the Raja, is proved to have carried with him presents for the ex-Viceroy Don Manoel, then on the point of embarking for Portugal.*** Early in the year 1835, this nobleman had been superseded by Bernardo Peres de Silva (called in the evidence Pere), and on the 20th February had written to Sir R. Grant for a vessel to touch at Vingorla to receive him. He embarked on the 20th March 1835 in the *Ganges*;††† but disagreeing with the captain, relanded at Chungoor Churg and returned by sea to Goa, where he remained till March 1836, when he took his departure for Lisbon.††† It was after his return to Goa that the interview took place between the ex-Viceroy and the new Envoy of the Raja, who appears to have received from him

* Sir R. Grant, para. 97.

† Sir R. Grant, paras. 17 and 118.

‡ Deposition of Hurry Punt, No. 21, para. 4.

** Sir R. Grant, para. 100.

†† Sir R. Grant, para. 111.

‡‡ Sir R. Grant, p. 102.

*** Para. 103.

† Deposition of Hurry Punt, No. 21, para. 3.

§ Sir R. Grant, para. 115.

¶ Para. 5.

¶¶ Sir R. Grant, para. 101.

¶¶¶ Colonel Ovens's letter of 11th Nov. 1837, para. 11.

¶¶¶ Sir R. Grant, para. 20.

¶¶¶ Sir R. Grant, paras. 58 to 62.

‡‡‡ Deposition of Daojee, No. 2, para. 9; Ditto of Hurry Punt, No. 21, para. 6; Ditto of Raojee Kotenees, No. 22, para. 14, and 8th question: Ditto of Balkoba. No. 25. para. 15.

him assurances of his inclination and ability to promote the objects of the plot, by his influence in Europe. With this interview, which seems to have confirmed the Raja in the confidence he was inclined to repose in his first agent, Nana Waced, the intermediate intercourse between Don Manoel and the authorities at Sattara must have terminated. Many letters and other writings were interchanged during its continuance.* There is also direct evidence to the fact of a treaty, containing several extravagant conditions, of which the first was the payment by the Raja of the sum of twenty-five lacs of rupees in advance,† having at one stage in the progress of the plot been reduced to writing at Sattara, and transmitted to Don Manoel, while he was yet in power at Goa. There is likewise evidence‡ to the same, or a similar paper, having been signed and sealed by Don Manoel and deposited in the temple at Sunkeshwur.

As a consequence of the confirmation obtained by the mission of Mahdeo Row Sirkey, of the trustworthiness of the original agent, Nana Waced, the latter was, about the end of 1835 or beginning of 1836,* presented with an order on the banker Teejeeram for the sum of 8,000 rupees,§ part of which he received in cash and part in hoondees; of which, having been robbed on his journey to Goa of a part of his baggage containing the original drafts, he was obliged to send back to Sattara for duplicates. The exact purpose to which this sum was to be applied is not very clear; but there seems reason to believe, that it was to defray the expense of sending an agent with Don Manoel to Lisbon, though it may perhaps, in consequence of the delay caused by the loss of the original hoondees, have been otherwise appropriated.

The last outlay on account of the plot seems to have been made in July 1836, when a sum of nine hundred and sixty rupees was paid out to Raojee Kotenees and Narrain Bhutt Chitney, to defray the expense of a journey to meet Erculan at Demaun.¶

On the 30th of that month, Nana Waced, who appears to have been throughout the prime mover in the plot, died in the town of Warree;¶ and the circumstances attending his death, as well as his deportment at the time, are well deserving of notice. He gave over the seal and signet, with which there is reason to believe that he had been furnished at Sattara for the purpose of attesting letters, to his brother-in-law, Balkoba, and dictated, and verified by a few characters in his own hand-writing, a letter to the Raja, recommending his family and dependents to his Highness's protection.** Though the plot evidently languished from the death of this extraordinary man, who seems really to have been animated by a sincere, though not, as I shall shew in the sequel, an entirely disinterested zeal for what he professed to regard as a sacred cause, it was not immediately abandoned;†† for, in September 1836, Raojee Kotenees and Narrain Bhutt Chitney came to Bombay,‡‡ and there opened a correspondence with Erculano, who was not then living at Demaun. By this time a partial discovery had been made by the British Authorities at Sattara, and whether it was from a suspicion of their intrigues being watched, or merely as a natural effect of their being no longer under the influence of an ardent spirit, like Nana Waced, no active steps seem to have been afterwards taken, and no more supplies were received from the Sattara Treasury. Reduced* in this way to considerable personal distress, Balkoba, the brother-in-law of Nana Waced, who had continued with the rest of the Mundallee, or gang, to reside at Warree, concerted with them a plan for the attack of the Treasury at Vingorla, which would have certainly been attempted, had he not been arrested, towards the end of 1837, through the vigilance of Mr. Spooner, the Acting Collector of the district of Rutnagheery.§§ The evidence taken

* Sir R. Grant, paras. 137 to 141; also summary BB. 1 and BB. 4.

† Deposition of Wassodeo Shastry, No. 1; Ditto of Raojee, No. 2, paras. 2 and 3.

‡ Deposition of Narrain Bhutt Chitney, taken by Mr. Dunlop.

§ Sir R. Grant, para. 105.

¶ Sir R. Grant, para. 106. For various anecdotes regarding this person, see Sir R. Grant, para. 34.

¶ Sir R. Grant, paras. 240 to 245.

** Sir R. Grant, para. 20, deposition of Sunjeevan, No. 7.

†† Deposition of Balkoba, para. 18. ‡‡ Sir R. Grant, para. 21.

§§ Mr. Spooner's letter, 31st August 1837.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute by Mr.
F. C. Robertson,
8 March 1839.

taken in the course of this inquiry is strongly corroborative of that obtained at Sattara. The fact of Nana Waeed's having been regarded as the agent of the Raja of Sattara, and of his receiving remittances of money from Sattara, his intimacy with Raojee Kotenees, also the fact of Mahdeo Row Sirkey's mission to Goa, as well as that of Nana Waeed's having lost part of his baggage by robbery, and coming to Warree in the hope of getting some part of it restored to him, are all proved incidentally, by evidence taken with a view to the discovery, *not* of the plot against the British Government, but of the plan for attacking the Collector's Treasury at Vingorla.*

It is also worthy of remark, that all the witnesses examined by Mr. Spooner deposed to the existence of a wide-spread rumour of a combination against the British power being formed, or contemplated, by the Native chiefs above the Ghauts. On the whole, I derive from the portion of the evidence from which I have extracted the narrative above given, the strongest conviction of his Highness the Raja of Sattara having incurred the penalty prescribed for a breach of the fifth article of the treaty of the 20th September 1819.†

With regard to the motives of the several parties engaged in this extravagant, but far from incredible, or even improbable, plot, these probably varied with the circumstances of the several individuals engaged in it.

The Raja was probably influenced by ambition, stimulated and excited by superstition and fanaticism.

Don Manoel may have been actuated by animosity towards a power which had not befriended the sovereign from whom he derived his authority, or by that general jealousy of the prosperity of our Eastern empire, which is so common among foreigners, or perhaps by more ignoble motives.

Nana Waeed may, as supposed by Sir R. Grant, have acted under a deep impression of discharging what he regarded as a religious duty; but that such feelings were not unmingled with others of a more mercenary nature, I am led to suspect from a passage in the deposition of Kesow Bulna Row Joece (No. 8), in which he states, that having questioned Nana Waeed as to how his expenses were paid, that person replied, "by getting up some pretext the time is spent. From the Sutturkar Maharaj something is got for expenses, and "by selling cloths, &c. &c. I maintain myself."‡

It may be as well here to mention, that the whole sum extracted from the Raja in the course of this intrigue appears, from the evidence of his bankers, to have amounted to about 36,000 rupees.

I have hardly touched upon what is referred to in the minutes as the Dharwar evidence,§ because, though highly corroborative of all that has been collected at Sattara, it does not discover any new facts that bear directly against the Raja himself. Ample proof, however, is there furnished, of most suspicious communications having been carried on between those who are well known as the Raja's agents and the chieftains in the Southern Mahratta and the Nizam's territory.

The alleged communications between the Raja of Sattara and the ex-Raja of Nagpore form the subject of a separate minute,|| in which the late Governor of Bombay has dissected and sifted the evidence with all his wonted diligence and skill.

If the case stood by itself, it might be questionable in how far it could be considered conclusive, but taken in conjunction with the others now before us, it cannot be denied that it brings a vast accession to the body of proof on record against the Raja of Sattara.

It may be as well to conclude this note with a sketch of the progress of the inquiry.

In July 1836,¶ a report was received from Colonel Lodwick, the Resident at

* Mr. Spooner's letter of 3d October; ditto 6th October; ditto 2d and 11th November 1837, and 20th January 1838; ditto 12th February 1838.

† Sir R. Grant, para. 11.

‡ Sir R. Grant, para. 245.

§ Sir R. Grant's Minute, 15th May.

|| Sir R. Grant's minute, 24th May.

¶ Sir R. Grant's minute of 31st May, para. 3. Letter from Colonel Ovens, 30th November, 1837, paras. 17 to 20. Letter from Colonel Ovens, 24th November 1837, paras. 16 to 19, with enclosure C.

at Sattara, of an attempt having been made, on the part of the Raja and his minister, to seduce from their allegiance certain officers and men of the 23d regiment Native Infantry. A commission appointed to inquire into this transaction reported the offence to be clearly proved, though the motive still remained obscure.* The arrest of the minister's Dewan, Govind Row, in August 1836, and his detention at Ahmednuggur, led to a petition from his mother, containing hints which induced the Government to order further inquiries to be made by Colonel Ovans, who had succeeded to the Residency.†

His inquiries commenced in the month of July 1837 and ended on the 10th November;‡ and it will be seen, by referring to the papers cited in the margin, how entirely the possibility of concert, or even previous communication between the witnesses, was precluded, by the manner in which their evidence was taken.

(Signed) T. C. ROBERTSON.

5th March 1839.

I have not alluded to the communication made by the Raja's brother, because I think it desirable to lay as little stress as possible upon the evidence of that personage. It will be found by referring to the passages marked in the margin.§

(Signed) T. C. R.

MINUTE BY MR. T. C. ROBERTSON,

Dated 9th April 1839.

Minute by Mr.
T. C. Robertson
9 April 1839

This case being still undecided, there can, I conceive, be no impropriety in my submitting an opinion on the merits of the evidence which I therein find recorded.

My high respect for the judicial talents of the late Mr. Shakespear has induced me to read with great attention his minute of the 11th May 1837, in which several ingenious arguments are advanced against the credibility of the evidence, to what then constituted the sole charge against the Raja of Sattara.

Much that then appeared quite inexplicable has since been cleared up; and it may be doubted whether, with the light acquired by subsequent investigations, Mr. Shakespear would have persisted in the opinion which he has left on record.

What strikes me as remarkable is, that he should not have given more weight to the high character and station of the two principal witnesses, and to the fact, that even the Raja himself does not attempt to assign any plausible motive for their combining to get up a story, to be confirmed in the manner ever most disliked by natives of any pretensions to rank, namely, by their own examinations on oath. Had the Raja even alleged any attempt on their part to obtain from him presents or favours of any kind, one might have suspected them of acting in collusion with the Brahmin; but, as the case stands, I really can perceive no grounds whatever for not giving full reliance to their testimony.

(Signed) T. C. ROBERTSON.

9th April 1839.

* Ibid. para. 4; Colonel Ovans's letter of 30th November 1839, para. 5; letter from Governor of Bombay, 3d July 1838, with enclosure.

† From Government of Bombay, 1st Sept. 1838.

‡ Sir R. Grant's minute, 5th May, paras. 148 to 164.

§ Letter of Colonel Ovans, 24th November 1837, para. 20 to 24, and enclosure D.; letter 30th November, paras. 45 and 46.

|| Alleged tampering with the Native officers of 23d Regt. of Bombay N.I.

Dated 11th April 1839.

Minute by
r. W. W. Bird,
11 April 1839.

The papers and proceedings submitted by the Government of Bombay in the case of the Raja of Sattara contain, it appears to me, abundant proof that the Raja has, for a series of years and in different ways, been deeply implicated in treacherous designs against the British Government, in violation of the treaty of the 20th of September 1819, and has subjected himself thereby to the forfeiture of his sovereignty, and the loss of all the advantages bestowed upon him by that agreement.

It is true, that the papers and proceedings in question afford likewise strong grounds for believing that, predisposed from the first against us, he has been made the dupe of evil and designing men, to serve their own purposes; but this is no palliation of his conduct. It remains, therefore, only to consider the course proper to be pursued towards a tributary standing in such a predicament: a tributary raised from a prison to the throne, solely by the power of the British Government.

The course formerly recommended, of presenting to the Raja a written statement of the charges and of the proofs against him, calling upon him for an answer, is open, I think, to all the objections which have been urged against it, namely, that it would expose the Government to such proceedings on the part of the Raja and his advisers, as could only lead to fresh embarrassments, and would, at the same time, expose every witness whose evidence has been given to cruel persecution.

The next course proposed, namely, the suspension of the Raja from the functions of sovereignty, and the appointment of a commission to sit in judgment upon him, appears to me equally objectionable. The suspension would, as stated in the minute of the Governor General, be construed into a predetermination to convict; and in regard to the appointment of a commission, I am not aware that the Raja could legally be tried by a tribunal so constituted, or that there exists any law by which the form of procedure for the trial of a sovereign prince, accused of political offences, could be regulated. I am quite sure, that the constitution of such a court would be attended with insuperable difficulties and perplexities; and it cannot, I think, admit of a doubt, that, in the present state of India, the discussion, the intrigues, and the excitement to which such a procedure must unavoidably give rise, might be followed by the most disastrous consequences.

Nor does it appear to me, that the case requires to be treated judicially. It is one entirely of a political nature; and, as such, all that behoves us to do is, to satisfy ourselves that the stipulations of the treaty have, in fact, been treacherously violated. This has been done by an inquiry, than which none was ever more patiently, laboriously, and dispassionately conducted, or more minutely and critically revised; and by all the authorities who have had successively to pass judgment in the case, the Raja has been universally condemned.

I think, therefore, that the Raja may at once be set aside. It is the course which has been resorted to in other cases, and which in this, under all the circumstances, ought, I am of opinion, to be adopted.

If the Raja be set aside, I agree with the late Sir Robert Grant, that no one should be set up in his stead. The impolicy of keeping up these petty states in the heart of our dominions has become, from experience, too obvious to require to be pointed out, and we are under no obligations to do it on the present occasion. The Sattara territories should be annexed to our own, and to the Raja and his brother liberal pensions should be assigned, on condition of their residing under British surveillance in some other part of India.

I have no apprehension that the annexation will excite any public sympathy in the Raja's favour, or raise a single doubt amongst the community at large, as to the propriety of his supersession. The intrigues which have been fomented, and are still fomenting, against us in all quarters, are so notorious, that

that an example is urgently required to be made ; and we could not have a better opportunity for the purpose, than a case like the present, wherein the grossest treachery has been combined with the deepest ingratitude.

SATTARA
PAPER:

Minute b
Mr. W. W. I
11 April 18

11th April 1839.

(Signed) W. W. BIRD.

MINUTE BY COLONEL W. MORISON,

Dated 25th April 1839.

Minute b
Col. W. Mor
25 April 18

I am quite satisfied, as well as his Lordship the Governor General, of the treachery and extravagant machinations of the Raja of Sattara.

Since his Lordship came to this conclusion as to the Raja's guilt, additional facts have come to light, tending still further to confirm it. The examination of the emissaries taken up at Nellore and at Madras contains matter strongly corroborative of the Raja's disaffection and hostility. This new communication with the ex-Raja of Nagpore, and the recently discovered fact of his having an emissary at the court of Nepal, are sufficient to confirm his hostile intentions and breach of the treaty.

But I doubt the expediency of putting him on his trial. He could not be tried by his peers, and the native community, in a case like this, would probably consider a commission of British officers, however constituted, as having been assembled only to convict him. The simple suspension of the Raja would not, in my mind, be an adequate punishment of himself, nor a sufficient example to others, at a moment like the present, and his territory would be kept in a ferment highly injurious to good government, by continual rumours of his restoration, and probably intrigues to effect that object. I think, therefore, that he ought to be deposed for his treachery, and the grounds of that decisive but just measure declared publicly by Government, waiting only to fix a time most convenient for carrying it into effect.

In adopting such a proceeding it would hardly be expedient to leave the Raja a free agent in his territory, or even in any parts of the Mahratta country, otherwise than as a state prisoner; an extremity which, I think, would not be indispensably necessary, if he were removed to Calcutta, and required to reside there under the surveillance of an officer of Government, and with such an allowance only as would afford him every comfort, without admitting of his doing mischief. This proceeding would, I doubt not, be viewed by the people as extremely lenient.

The treachery and long disaffection of the Raja towards his benefactors, who raised him from a prison to a throne, have, I conceive, cast much doubt upon the wisdom of that humane policy, which occasioned his being treated with so much indulgence; for, as the hereditary head of the Mahratta empire, he was probably, from the first, dissatisfied with the provision made for him, and with the smallness of the territory assigned around Sattara, the capital of his ancestor Sevajee. But this restoration of his house, with a territory ample for the maintenance of his dignity, has only, I fear, inspired him with ambitious views inconsistent with his obligations to the British Government, whose power he is now conspiring to subvert; nor is it, I think, improbable, that many of the Mahratta chiefs and people, who pride themselves on their former power and hereditary prowess, entertain high hopes of seeing the empire restored, by means of the restored Raja.

On such grounds, it would not hardly appear to be our best policy in India, to restore dynasties which had already fallen, like those of Sattara and Mysore. We do not, by such indulgence and consideration, ensure their attachment and fidelity, but hurt the interest of the people, and yield up resources which would add much more effectually to our actual strength, than the allegiance of such princes, even if it could be relied on.

These considerations suggest the inquiry, in the event of its being deemed necessary, in self-defence and security, to make an example of the Raja of Sat-

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Minute by
W. MORISON,
5 April 1839.

tara, in what manner his immediate heirs should be dealt with. I confess it to be my opinion, his country being resumed, that the several members of the family ought to be provided for elsewhere, on pensions depending upon good behaviour, and on a scale to be regulated only with reference to their complete comfort and respectable maintenance, at such places as the Government may determine.

Since Mr. Robertson's and Mr. Bird's minutes were written, we have received a letter from the Secret Committee,* dated the 22d January 1839, intimating that the Governor in Council at Bombay would be requested to suspend the transmission of any decision to the Raja of Sattara, until the Government of India shall have had the opportunity of issuing such further directions as may be deemed proper, after considering such observations and suggestions as may be made by Sir James Carnac, recently appointed Governor of Bombay; any remarks of mine may, therefore, be deemed superfluous. I have, however, submitted the above, in deference to the desire expressed by the Governor General to receive the opinion of the Council of India on this very delicate and important subject; and I am only afraid that any longer delay in disposing of it may greatly impair the effect which an early and severe example would give, in repressing intrigue generally, as well as the disposition to disturbance recently manifested near Sholapoor and at Malwan, both in the vicinity of Sattara, where the Raja's hostility to the British Government is no secret.

(Signed) W. MORISON.

Calcutta, 25th April 1839.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE COURT OF DIRECTORS IN THE
CASE OF THE RAJA OF SATTARA, WITH PAPERS
RECORDED BY INDIVIDUAL DIRECTORS.

SATTARA
PAPERS
—
Proceedings of
Court of Directors

AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Court of Directors
25 March 1840

Held on Wednesday, the 25th March 1840.

Paragraphs for India in the Political Department, regarding the charges against the (late) Raja of Sattara, and the proceedings of the Governments of India and Bombay thereon, were laid before the Court, and ordered to lie for consideration till Wednesday the 1st proximo.

AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Court of Directors
1 April 1840

Held on Wednesday, the 1st April 1840.

The draft of paragraphs for India in the Political Department, regarding the charges against the (late) Raja of Sattara, and the proceedings of the Governments of India and Bombay thereon, which was laid before the Court on the 25th ultimo, was read;

And, after much discussion, the question, that this Court approve the said draft of paragraphs, being put by the ballot, the same passed in the affirmative.

COPY POLITICAL DESPATCH TO THE GOVERNOR GENERAL
OF INDIA IN COUNCIL (No. 15),

Political despatch
to the
Governor General
1 April 1840

Dated 1st April 1840.

1. The following letters relate to the charges against the Raja of Sattara, and the proceedings of your Government and the Government of Bombay thereon:—

Secret Letters from Bombay, dated—

15 Sept. 1836.	|	29 Nov. —
30 Nov. —		30 do.
17 Jan. 1837.		28 March, No. 1, 1838.
1 April —		26 April, No. 2, —
28 do. —		19 May, No. 3, —
24 June —		21 do. No. 5, —
19 July —		1 June, No. 6, —
16 Aug. —		12 do. No. 7, —
19 do. —		3 July, No. 10, —
25 Sept. — (two)		5 Sept. No. 20, —
21 Oct. —		7 do. No. 23, —
23 do. —		5 Oct. No. 26, —

**SATTARA
PAPERS.**

Political despatch
to the
Governor General,
1 April 1840.

Secret Letters from Bombay, dated—

6 Oct. No. 28, 1838.	25 Feb. (secy.) 1839.
6 do. (secy.) —	7 March, No. 25, —
24 do. No. 31, —	14 do. No. 27, —
15 Nov. No. 37, —	26 do. No. 35, —
1 Dec. No. 38, —	10 April, No. 38, —
1 do. No. 41, —	13 do. No. 43, —
1 do. No. 42, —	15 do. No. 47, —
1 do. No. 44, —	16 do. (secy.) —
4 do. No. 47, —	8 May, No. 56, —
5 do. No. 50, —	12 Sept. No. 106, —
19 Jan. No. 6, 1839, paras. 3 and 4.	7 Oct. No. 114, —
31 do. No. 11, —	28 do. No. 119, —
6 Feb. No. 12, —	28 Nov. No. 128, —
25 do. No. 24, —	31 Dec. No. 134, —

Political Letters from Bombay, dated—

25 Sept. No. 56, 1837. | 20 Feb. No. 6, 1839.

Secret Letter from the Government of India—

3 July, No. 7, 1837.

Political Letter from the Government of India—

20 Oct. No. 53, 1837, para. 48.

Political Letters from the Governor General—

1 Oct. No. 20, 1838. | 29 Dec. No. 24, 1838.

Public Letter from the Governor General, dated—

6 Jan. No. 1, 1838, para. 32.

Secret Letter from the Governor General—

7 Nov. No. 42, 1839.

Secret Letter from Madras, dated—

7 Dec. No. 21, 1839, para. 10.

2. Our former communications to your Lordship in Council on the Sattara case will have shewn to you, that we were disinclined to attach serious importance to the allegations against the Raja, which had been transmitted to us by the Governor in Council of Bombay, and that we were desirous that the proceedings in respect to the Raja should be brought to a speedy close.

3. These views coincided with the sentiments which your Lordship has communicated to the Government of Sir Robert Grant; but the case was still undetermined when Sir James Carnac was nominated to the Government of Bombay. On that occasion, you were instructed by the Secret Committee to adopt no final decision, "until you have had an opportunity of taking into your consideration such observations and suggestions as may be made to you by Sir James Carnac, on a review of those proceedings."

4. Previously, however, to the arrival of Sir James Carnac, the case against the Raja had, in the progress of the inquiry, assumed a much more serious character than it presented when first brought to our notice, and you had taken a different view, both of the Raja's conduct and of the measures which it was requisite to adopt towards him. Sir James Carnac having entered on an examination of the evidence, found himself compelled to come to the same conclusion in regard to the Raja's misconduct, as that which the late Governor in

in Council of Bombay, and all the members of the present Government of India, had been constrained to adopt.

SATTA
PAPEE

5. But Sir James Carnac, though convinced that the conduct of the Raja had been such as to involve the forfeiture of all the advantages of the treaty by which he was placed upon the gadi, and thereby to furnish an undoubted justification for his deposition, was nevertheless unwilling to proceed to extremities, without making a decided effort to recall the Raja to a due sense of his obligations by treaty and of his true interests.

Political des
to the
Governor G.
1 April 18

6. We concur in the view and sentiments expressed by Sir James Carnac in the minute which he recorded on the 4th Sept. 1839, and approve of his determination to proceed himself to Sattara, for the purpose of offering to the Raja, on the mildest possible terms, an entire amnesty for all previous infractions of the treaty of 1819.

7. We deeply lament that the Raja was so infatuated as to reject the liberal terms offered, and that the earnest endeavours of Sir James Carnac, exerted at four different personal interviews, independently of the intermediate visits of the Resident, failed of shaking his determination.

8. The article to which the Raja chiefly objected was that which confirmed the stipulations of the previous treaty of 1819. He declared that that treaty had been forced upon him, and professed an insuperable objection of renewing the obligation.

9. By this conduct, the Raja left no course open to the British Government but that of removing him from the raj. In refusing to renew the existing treaty, grounding his refusal on the objections he entertained to its provisions, he virtually declared himself not bound by it, and consequently forfeited all the advantages he derived from it, among which, in this case, was the raj itself; and had you shrunk from enforcing that consequence, such conduct, instead of being felt by the Raja as an instance of generous forbearance, would have led him, and probably other dependent princes, to believe that they might safely indulge in contempt for, and total disregard of, their obligations to the British Government.

10. The Governor of Bombay, with the utmost reluctance, issued orders for the removal of the Raja from the gadi of Sattara, and for the elevation of his brother to the raj. These orders were accordingly carried into effect, and our last despatches from Bombay inform us of the departure of the late Raja for Benares, and of the installation of his successor.

11. It now only remains for us to communicate to you our opinion on the conclusion which was unanimously adopted by all the authorities to whom the evidence had been submitted, that the late Raja had incurred the penalty of deposition from the raj to which he had been raised by the British Government. This opinion we give, after the most anxious and deliberate consideration, by adding our sanction to the approval which your Lordship in Council has given to the proceedings of Sir James Carnac, in deposing the late Raja of Sattara.

12. We also approve of the provision which Sir James Carnac made for the support of the ex-Raja, and of his arrangements in regard to his successor, who, we are happy to learn, has given early proofs of a wish to amend the condition and add to the happiness of his subjects.

13. There are other matters connected with this case, to which we may find it necessary hereafter to refer.

14. In conclusion, we have to express our warm commendation of the conduct of Sir James Carnac, in the transactions which we have now reviewed. He proceeded to Sattara with a manifest and earnest desire to save the Raja from the consequences of his own folly, and we are convinced that he left no means untried for the purpose. When this proved to be impossible, he adopted,

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Political despatch
to the
Governor General,
1 April 1840.

with judgment and decision, the course which circumstances had rendered inevitable.

We are,
Your affectionate Friends,

(Signed)

R. JENKINS,
W. B. BAYLEY,
H. LINDSAY,
W. S. CLARKE,
W. ASTELL,
F. WARDEN,
R. CAMPBELL,
R. ELLICE,
J. MASTERMAN,
C. MILLS,
H. SHANK,
H. ALEXANDER,
N. B. EDMONSTONE,
J. W. HOGG.

London,
1st April 1840.

Report of Directors,
1 April 1840.

AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Held on Wednesday, the 1st April 1840.

Henry St. George Tucker, Esq., a Member of this Court, delivered in a dissent from the despatch to India in the Political Department, regarding the Sattara question, which was approved this day. The same was read, *viz.*

DISSENT.

I cannot concur in the letter to the Government of India in the Political Department on the affairs of Sattara, which passed the Court this day.

First, Because, after stating "that our former communications to his Lordship in Council on the Sattara case will have shown, that we were disinclined to attach serious importance to the allegations against the Raja, which had been transmitted to us by the Governor in Council of Bombay, and that we were desirous that the proceedings in respect to the Raja should be brought to a speedy close;" after this clear and explicit intimation of our views, which, as we continue to observe, "coincided with the sentiments which your Lordship in Council communicated to the government of Sir Robert Grant," it was manifestly incumbent upon the Court, with a view to its consistency, to show, by a distinct reference to some new fact or disclosures, upon what ground they had changed their opinion, and arrived at so different a conclusion.

Secondly, Because, on an examination of the case upon its merits, I must think that the dethronement of the Raja of Sattara was premature, uncalled for, and impolitic, and that the government abroad was not empowered to resort to this extreme measure, without the express sanction of the Home Authorities.*

Thirdly, That the elevation of Appa Sahib, the Raja's brother, to the gadi, was most unreasonable, injudicious, and unwarrantable, inasmuch as it is calculated to produce great embarrassment to the Home Authorities in the exercise of their free judgment on the case, and of those functions and duties with which the Legislature has invested them, for the due administration of our affairs in India.

In

* If this authority was given by the Secret Committee in consequence of Lord Auckland's minute of the 23d September 1838, it does not appear upon our records. It is not conveyed in the Committee's letter of the 22d of January 1839.

SATTAR
PAPERCourt of Dire
1 April 18
Dissent.

In reviewing the case of the Raja of Sattara, it is necessary to premise certain considerations, which are calculated to induce a great degree of caution in proceeding to a final judgment.

• First, An *ex-parte* inquiry can seldom lead to a satisfactory result; and when the Government is the party interested, some allowance must always be made for the influence which will operate on the minds of the witnesses and others, however anxious the Government may be to administer impartial justice.

Secondly, The testimony of the natives of India is not always trustworthy, even in cases where they may have no intention, and no interest to deceive or mislead, and the value of their testimony will depend greatly upon the skill, temper, and fairness of those by whom they are examined. A word, or gesture, or an unseasonable interruption, will sometimes turn the current of their evidence; for they feel that habitual deference to superiors, which makes them anxious to give such testimony as they think likely (however erroneously) to afford satisfaction. To take down parole evidence correctly, a very accurate knowledge of the colloquial dialect is moreover necessary, as well as a knowledge of the character, habits, and way of thinking of the people.

Thirdly, Great difficulty is experienced in establishing the genuineness and value of documentary evidence, for the natives of India are expert imitators and fabricators. Men of rank do not generally write or sign their names. A seal is commonly used, which can easily be counterfeited, and the writing can be easily imitated sufficiently well to deceive the unpractised eye of an European.

Fourthly, Evidence derived from intercepted letters, unless fully authenticated, must be received with great reserve, since it is easy for an adverse party to dispose of fabricated papers in a way to create suspicion. We had a remarkable instance in Bengal of a forged correspondence* having been carried on for a considerable time, while one of the parties, who would have been liable to the charge of treason had it been genuine, was totally unconscious of its existence.

Fifthly, I would observe that the multiplication of small offences, or what Lord Auckland aptly terms "petty and obscure intrigues," cannot be taken to constitute a grave and serious crime. The *animus* and general character of a party may be shewn by repeated instances of such petty intrigues; but the penalty of treason or rebellion is not incurred, by cumulative charges of an inferior degree of guilt.

Lastly, We must hold in mind, that the brother of the Raja incurred the suspicion of being engaged in an intrigue against him whom he has superseded. Appa Sahib, the present Raja, in his statement of the 5th October 1837, clearly anticipates the Raja's dethronement; and, in express terms, prefers his claim to the succession. Conduct so unnatural and so unworthy is, at least, calculated to create a suspicion of unfair dealing towards his brother and sovereign.

In laying down these general premises, as a means of testing the value of Indian evidence, I do not rest upon the result of my own very limited experience. The difficulty of obtaining pure and satisfactory evidence in India has been felt and attested by some of our most able and experienced officers in the judicial department; and I would submit that, in no case, could discrimination and care in weighing evidence be more necessary, than in that of the Raja of Sattara, as much will depend in trying its merits upon *probability* and fair inference to be drawn from a vast mass of materials. The proceedings are voluminous: they embrace a great deal of extraneous and irrelevant matter, and some of the circumstances alleged against the Raja took place years ago, and appear to have a very slender connexion (if any) with the particular charges.†

The

* See also the case of the impostor Paula Shah, who forged letters under the counterfeit seal of the Guicowar, calculated to compromise that prince.

† See, for example, the inquiry which took place at Hyderabad, regarding Kunamut Ullah, having reference to circumstances which occurred many years ago.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

part of Directors,
1 April 1840.
Dissent.

The following are the three charges which have been brought against the Raja, and which have been under examination now during a period of three or four years. For more easy reference, I will subjoin the two articles of the treaty of the 25th September 1819, which are alleged to have been violated by the Raja: the Governor of Bombay, in his minute of the 4th September 1839, formally pronouncing, that "three important violations of the treaty had been proved against him."

"1. Of the fifth article, in having, during a series of years, held improper communications with the Goa Authorities.

"2. Of the same article, in having held a clandestine intercourse with Appa Sahib, the ex-Raja of Nagpore.

"3. Of having tampered with the Native officers of the 23d regiment Native infantry.

"Article 2. The Raja, for himself and for his heirs and successors, engages to hold the territory in subordinate co-operation with the British Government, and to be guided in all matters by the advice of the British Agent at his Highness's court.

"Article 5. The Raja, for himself and for his heirs and successors, engages to forbear from all intercourse with foreign powers, and with all sirdars, jagheerdars, chiefs, and ministers, and all persons of whatever description, who are not by the above articles rendered subject to his Highness's authority. With all the above persons his Highness, for himself, and for his heirs and successors, engages to have no connexion or correspondence. Any affairs that may arise with them relating to his Highness are to be exclusively conducted by the British Government. If, for the purpose of forming matrimonial connexions for his Highness's family, or for any similar purpose, his Highness has occasion to communicate with persons not rendered subject to his authority by this agreement, such communication is to be made entirely through the Political Agent."

The first charge imputes to the Raja an infraction of the 5th article of the treaty, in holding "improper communications" with the authorities at Goa: but, in examining this charge, it is essential that we should advert to the situation of the parties implicated, the motives by which they may be supposed to have been actuated, and the ends at which they may have aimed; for if it appear that a project is, upon the very face of it, impracticable or desperate, and that the individual has every thing to lose and nothing to gain by the attempt, we are bound to require very strong evidence to establish its existence. "Improper communications" may, no doubt, involve a breach of engagement; but the offence may be venial with reference to the situation and circumstances of the party: and it is quite certain, that the Governor General of India took this view of the Raja's case in his letters of the 2d and 16th October 1837; and that the late Mr. Henry Shakespear, a member of the Government of India, who had great experience in the administration of civil and criminal justice, was decidedly of opinion, that no charge of a serious nature had been substantiated against the Raja.*

It may be fully admitted, that the Raja, through the agency of his servants, Nago Deorao, Balkoba, and others, opened a communication with the Portuguese at Goa, and that Don Manoel, the ex-Governor, and a certain Dr. Herculano, apparently encouraged an intrigue for obtaining aid from the Government of Portugal; but the only intelligible object which these persons can have had in view, in receiving and countenancing the emissaries of the Raja (admitting them to have been such), was to obtain money in the shape of presents; or to defray expenses pretended to have been incurred in the Raja's service, since they must have known that they possessed no means whatever of promoting any designs which might be hostile to the British Government.

If, indeed, the Governor of Goa had been found to be a party conspiring against the British Government, by aiding and abetting the Raja in the prosecution

* Mr. Shakespear's remarks apply chiefly, it is true, to the third charge.

SATTARA
PAPERS.Court of Direc
1 April 184
Dissent.

prosecution of hostile purposes, we should have been justified in proceeding against Goa for this act of hostility. But Portugal is the most insignificant power in Europe, owing its very existence to our protection, and nothing but the most inconceivable ignorance could have caused the Raja to apply to such a quarter for assistance. He could scarcely have had any European British subjects as his advisers at the time; for they would have pointed out the extravagance of such a project, and they could have had no interest in placing him in such hands. He was evidently the dupe of some mercenary adventurers, who, for their own base purposes, had engaged him in an intrigue, the success of which, with better information, he would have seen to be impossible.*

This infatuated prince, unfortunately, entertained the most extravagant notions of his own dignity and importance, as the descendant of Sevajee and the hereditary chief of the Mahratta empire. He was dissatisfied with his condition, and, impatient of control, he sought eagerly to aggrandize himself, and he caught at any straw to realise his dream of fancied supremacy; but his projects resembled more the fretful sallies of a wayward child than the machinations of a dangerous conspirator. Possessing no real power, surrounded on all sides by our territory, without army or fleet, or connexions, or financial resources, he was not in a situation to excite alarm, nor likely ever to become a formidable enemy. His hereditary rank furnished some excuse for his inordinate pretensions; and as his character was free from that reproach which so often attaches to the Native princes of India, and he was confessedly a prudent and successful administrator of his country, † it must be admitted, that strong grounds existed for treating him with consideration and tenderness. I myself have always opposed the doctrine, that the British Government have a right to dethrone the princes of India; ‡ except only in cases where those princes have actually placed themselves in the position of public enemies, by some overt act of hostility. It is not sufficient that they entertain a hostile disposition towards us; for, if we proceeded merely on the assumption of such a feeling, we might assume its existence in the case of almost every Native prince and chieftain in India; for, inasmuch as we have usurped their places, and hold them in a state of absolute subjection by our military power, it is impossible not to believe that they feel a natural desire to recover their independence.

The guilt or innocence of the Raja of Sattara must rest upon the simple issue, whether, if regarded as an independent prince, he leagued with the enemies of the British Government in a hostile design; or if, owing allegiance to that Government, he was guilty of any act of treason towards it. The imputation of ingratitude, or perverseness, or inordinate ambition, however well founded, cannot involve the forfeiture of his principality; nor would political considerations (if such could be pleaded) be sufficient to justify its confiscation, or his dethronement. In my opinion, views of policy should deter us from resorting to that extreme measure, for every prince in India will make the Raja's case his own. None will feel assured of the permanency of their tenure, and all will be ready to seize any favourable occasion for throwing off our authority. Fear may restrain them for a time; but fear is, at best, but a poor substitute for attachment, and desperation may succeed to fear.

* The late Sir R. Grant, on the 5th May 1838, observes as follows:—"With regard to the letters purporting to have been addressed by the Raja to Don Manoel, it is proved in evidence, that these were not invariably submitted for his Highness's approval, but that Nago prepared such drafts as he thought proper, sealed them, and delivered them as proceeding from his master. There is not a single instance proved of any letter having actually been written at Sattara with the cognizance of the Raja, and we are left to conjecture what was the nature of the powers delegated to Nago. Were it not, therefore, for the abundant evidence obtained, of the connexion which existed between the Raja and Nago, and of the fact clearly proved, that the Raja received letters from Don Manoel, alluding to letters which the latter had received purporting to proceed from the Raja, I should say that the correspondence of the Raja and Don Manoel would be doubtful, and that we might infer, that the letters written in his name might not have been authorised on his part."

† See various despatches from the Court on this subject.

‡ See the valuable minutes of my colleague, Mr. Edmonstone (in which I concurred), recorded on our proceedings of the 26th February 1838, and 6th November 1839.

SATTARA
PAPERS.Court of Directors,
1 April 1840.

Dissent.

fear. Severe examples are only salutary when their justice is apparent ; they otherwise produce indignation and resentment.

Further, I must contend, that it would be most impolitic to allow the Governments abroad to dethrone or set aside the Native princes of India. This would place a most formidable power in the hands of our Governors, and of the Residents at the Native courts ; and we are not to place altogether out of view, that such a power would be liable to be abused, under the influence of passion, or prejudice, or other feelings.

It may be urged that the Raja of Sattara is not an independent prince ; that he only held *during good behaviour* a territory which we had spontaneously conferred upon him ; and that he was liable to be set aside and deprived of his principality, whenever he infringed the strict letter of his engagement. But it is too late, I apprehend, to assume this high ground. Why did we contract a treaty with the Raja ? Was this treaty a mere mockery ? Why did we maintain a Resident at his Court ? If he only held a *fief** or jagheer, resumable upon proof of misconduct or contumacy, the case might have been dealt with in our courts of justice, and we should not have been called upon to interfere in the ordinary course of law. But, in truth, the elevation of the descendant of Sevajee to a station of high rank and dignity was as much an act of *policy* as of humanity : a policy intended to conciliate the Mahratta people, and to neutralize any remnant of influence which might still attach to the ex-Peishwa, Bajec Row, who had engaged in a treacherous confederation against us, and had levied open war on the British power.

Admitting, too, that the Raja was guilty of an infraction of the treaty, it does not follow that it was such as to cause his *blood* to be *attainted*. If the Raja should have no legitimate issue, it was competent to him to *adopt*, and his heir might be perfectly innocent, and be justly entitled to the inheritance under the treaty.

I would here observe, that the Government abroad committed a fatal error, in deposing the Raja without awaiting the sanction of the Home Authorities. There could exist no cause for haste. No danger threatened us at the moment ; and this precipitate act placed the Home Government in a situation of peculiar difficulty and embarrassment. If this Court had found the Raja to be innocent, or to be guilty only of minor offences, which did not justly entail the forfeiture of his principality, we must either have perpetuated an injustice by confirming the confiscation, contrary to our own better judgment, or we must, by reversing it, have weakened the influence of the local authorities, whom we ought, as far as possible, to support. It is quite clear, that pending the reference to this country, no step should have been taken, calculated to commit them or us ; and every necessary and useful purpose would have been answered, by the undertaking the administration of the principality on the part of the Raja, until his fate should have been decided in the last resort.

Still more objectionable, in my opinion, was the act of the Government of Bombay, in elevating Appa Sahib, the Raja's brother, to the gadi,† without insisting upon the fact, that he had exposed himself to the suspicion of having intrigued against his sovereign. I can fancy no sufficient reason for a proceeding which was calculated to add greatly to our difficulty and embarrassment. We cannot now displace this person without inconvenience, nor without exposing our Government to the imputation of levity and inconsistency. The step was, I think, quite uncalled for at the time, and was altogether an act of *supererogation* ; for the Home Authorities had not been allowed an opportunity

* See the account of the establishment of the Raja of Sattara, by Captain J. Sutherland, printed in 1833, in which it is expressly called a "Sovereignty." See also Sir James Carnac's minute of the 4th September 1839, paragraph 23.

† This ill-advised measure was evidently considered objectionable, both by the Governor General of India, and by the late Sir Robert Grant (See Governor General's minute of the 23d September 1838, paragraph 14, and Sir Robert Grant's minute of the 31st May 1838, paragraph 57). Sir James Carnac, it is true, in his minute of the 4th September, quotes a letter from the Governor General's secretary of the 12th July 1839, conveying his Lordship's authority for the eventual elevation of Appa Sahib ; but the Governor General, in a subsequent letter of the 14th October 1839, paragraph 5, observes, that his Lordship would have hesitated on this precise measure.

tunity of deliberating upon it, or of exercising any jurisdiction over the question of succession to the principality.

The Government of Bombay seem, indeed, to anticipate, that the principality may escheat,* at no distant period, to our Government, by the demise of Appa Sahib. But the principality is hereditary under the treaty: and should the Raja have no issue or natural heirs, he may adopt; and adoption, with a Hindoo, is not only a *right* but a *duty*. I have the highest authority for stating that, even in the case of a fief or dependency, a legal adoption cannot be barred by the Government or lord paramount.

On the second and third charges, I shall only observe generally, that it does not appear to me that any criminality has been fairly established against the Raja. The correspondence with the ex-Raja of Nagpore, if genuine, may be accounted for, with reference to the domestic concerns of the parties;† and, under the most unfavourable interpretation, it can be regarded only “as a “petty and obscure intrigue.” It may be conceded, that two or three of our Native officers were admitted at night into the palace of the Raja, and were received by the Dewan, Govind Row, and perhaps by the Raja himself, although his person seems not to have been identified: but, on this charge, I would refer again to the judicious comment of the late Mr. Henry Shakespear, in his minute of the 11th May 1837; and I will only add, that the 23d Regiment of Native Infantry bore a high character, that there was no disaffection in the corps, no predisposition to mutiny, and that no attempt to win them from their duty and allegiance could have been made with the slightest prospect of success.‡

But grant that these “petty intrigues” had a real existence, and that the Raja was extravagant enough to promise himself success, I must still contend, that the offer of an amnesty at the last hour was a virtual acknowledgment, either that his offences did not bear a grave and dangerous character, or that his criminality was not deemed to have been established on indisputable grounds.

And why was this act of grace and mercy clogged by useless and offensive conditions? Useless, because, if the Raja could not be depended upon to respect the existing treaty, no better reliance could be placed on his adherence to his new engagement: and I call them offensive, because the preamble to the new engagement proposed to him denounced his criminality. Of what use was this retrospect to past misconduct, real or supposed? It only placed a difficulty in the way of a final and satisfactory arrangement. The Raja may have shewn false pride, contumacy, and perverseness, in refusing to subscribe to the articles tendered to him as the conditions of his retaining his principality and dignity; but, as he considered their acceptance to imply a confession of guilt, his scruples ought to have been respected. Guilt would have found it easy to accept the conditions proposed, in order to escape from the threatened penalty. The consciousness of rectitude must be strong, when it impels a man to make a great sacrifice to a sense of honour, however mistaken: and I must own that I cannot regard, otherwise than with feelings of deep commiseration, that Hindoo, who could resolve to sacrifice a principality, to abandon his treasures, to relinquish his home, and remove his family to a distant part of the country, rather than make a slight concession, which he felt must compromise his character.

The first article of the new treaty or engagement required that the Raja should act up to the treaty of the 25th September 1819, and especially to the second article, by which he engages to conduct himself in subordination to the British Government, and to follow the advice of the British Resident: but this treaty was already in full force, and it required no new recognition of its obligations.

The

* See their letter of the 12th September, and the Governor's minute of the 4th September, 1839, paragraph 26.

† See Court's letter of the 26th September 1839, which does not entirely interdict “private correspondence.”

‡ See the observations of General Lodwick, the late Resident, on the charge of tampering with the Sepoys.

SATTAR
PAPER

Court of Dire:
1 April 18:
Dissent.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Court of Directors,
1 April 1840.
Dissent.

The second article required that he should continue to pay the stipend to his brother, Appa Sahib, who has superseded him.

The third required the dismissal of Bulwunt Row Chitnavees from the Raja's councils.

The fourth provides, that the Raja shall respect the guarantee given by the British Government to certain persons enumerated in a separate list, as well as any *similar guarantee* which may *hereafter* be extended to *any other persons*, for the protection of "their persons, property, and allowances of every description."

To these guarantees, after the experience we have had of their inconvenience in the case of the Guicowar, reasonable objections might, I think, be urged; but it was the preamble* to the new engagement which, probably, constituted the great obstacle to its acceptance by the Raja.

The Court have not put forth any statement of the specific facts and particular disclosures on which they rely, and I can, therefore, only oppose my general impressions to their general conclusions, without attempting to give a more exact analysis of the merits of the case.

Nor is it incumbent upon me to suggest the course to be pursued on the present occasion, for the purpose of setting right that which may be wrong. It is not my province to originate a proposition. My duty is, to examine and form my judgment upon the despatch submitted to us, in which I cannot concur. I am quite aware of the difficulties with which the question is encompassed, and I fully admit, that it would now be almost impossible to point out any course which would be altogether free from objection. Under such circumstances, I might, perhaps, have spared myself the labour of the present discussion; but when I find myself opposed to high authority, I should be wanting in the respect which is due to it, if I withheld the grounds of my opinion. I entertain the greatest respect for the judgment, prudence, moderation, and good feeling of Lord Auckland, and I only regret that his Lordship should have seen occasion to recede at all from his original view of the case, which appeared to me to be sound and just.

The Court may, perhaps, have felt that, under existing circumstances, some concession must be made to *expediency*, and they have, no doubt, come to that decision which, upon the whole, appeared to be most prudent, as well as justifiable and necessary. But holding, as I do, a very decided opinion, I cannot subscribe to premises which I do not admit, nor assist in maintaining a position which appears to me to be untenable, nor undertake to advocate a policy which I feel to be irreconcilable with the obligations of public justice.

(Signed) H. SR. G. TUCKER.

East-India House,
1st April 1840.

Court of Directors,
7 April 1840.

AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Held on Tuesday, the 7th April 1840,

John Cotton, Esq., a Member of that Court, delivered in a Dissent from the despatch to India in the Political Department, respecting the dethronement of the Raja of Sattara, which was approved on the 1st instant. The same was read, *viz.*—

Dissent.

DISSENT.

Having voted against the draft of a despatch to India, which passed the Court on Wednesday last, the 1st instant, conveying, as it does, an unqualified approval

* "Information having been received by the British Government, that your Highness, misled by evil advisers, had, in breach of the treaty which placed you on the throne, entered into communications hostile to the British Government, an inquiry into these accusations was considered indispensable. This inquiry has satisfied the British Government that your Highness has exposed yourself to the sacrifice of its alliance and protection; nevertheless, moved by considerations of decency towards your Highness and your family, the British Government has resolved entirely to overlook what has passed, on the following conditions."

approval of the measures adopted by the Government of Bombay for the final settlement of the Sattara question, I deem it proper to place on record my reasons for giving such a vote.

• First, in respect to the deposition of the Raja.

• Because it appears by the minute of the late Governor of Bombay, Sir Robert Grant, dated 31st May 1838, and by the minutes of the Governor General, Lord Auckland, dated the 23d September and 29th December 1838, that however strong and conclusive the *ex-parte* evidence obtained against the Raja was considered to be, it was never contemplated by either of those authorities to depose the Raja absolutely, without first giving him the opportunity of offering an explanation of the charges established by evidence against him, or of refuting them altogether in a formal trial, or without the express sanction of the Home Authorities. This view of the case is, moreover, confirmed by Sir James Carnac, in his minute of the 4th September last, in the following words: "His Lordship therefore finally resolved not to act, but determined "to await instructions from the Home Authorities on the case generally; the "mode of trial, if a trial was judged proper, and respecting the policy to be "observed, in the event of the Raja being found guilty."

Because, in offering the Raja an amnesty for all alleged violations of the treaty, it was a distinct admission on the part of the Government, that his offences and guilt were not of that serious and dangerous character, as to render his deposal necessary; and his rejection of the amnesty, fettered with the terms and conditions proposed to him, furnished afterwards no just cause for resorting to the opposite and extreme measure of absolute deposition, and subjecting him to the same degree of punishment and degradation as other princes, who had been defeated and taken in open hostility against the British Government.

Because I am of opinion, that the obvious course to be pursued, after the rejection of the amnesty, would, in fairness and justice to the Raja, in accordance with the previous act of the Government itself, and in deference to the Home Authorities, have been to have deprived the Raja of power only, and to have assumed the administration of the country, declaredly for his behalf and that of his family, pending a reference to England for the final decision of the question.

Secondly, in respect of the succession of the Raja's brother, Appa Sahib.

Because it appears not merely that his elevation to the gadi was never proposed, either by the late Governor of Bombay or by the Governor General, but they, as well as the other local authorities, were, in the event of the Raja's deposal being determined upon, decidedly opposed to it, on the grounds of his conduct bearing strong marks of suspicion, not only of his having united with his brother, the Raja, in intrigues against the British Government, but of having engaged in intrigues himself, with a view to his own succession to the gadi, and because it had no sanction whatever from the Home Authorities.

(Signed) JOHN COTTON.

7th April 1840.

John Shepherd, Esq., likewise a Member of this Court, delivered in a Dissent from the despatch to India in the Political Department regarding the Sattara case. The same was read, *viz.*—

DISSENT.

I concur generally in the view taken of this important subject by my Honourable Colleague, Mr. Tucker, which he has so ably expounded in his Dissent.

The offer of an amnesty to the Raja of Sattara having been finally decided upon, it was injudicious to clog it with stipulations calculated to defeat its object.

The preamble of the conditions, which his Highness was called upon to sign, entangled him in an admission of guilt. It also involved the Government in the glaring inconsistency of propounding a principle, which required the

SATTARA
PAPERS.Court of Directors,
7 April 1840.

Dissent.

strongest proof of the Raja's unworthiness to reign, as a necessary condition on which he was to be continued on the gadi.

Who will deny that his rejection of the proposal furnishes presumptive evidence of his innocence, and raises him more in the estimation of the world, than if he had ignominiously complied, for the sake of retaining his sovereignty?

The setting up of Appa Sahib, who had manifested hostile and most unnatural feelings towards his brother—who had been long an anxious aspirant to the throne, and who was himself strongly suspected of being concerned in the Sattara intrigues—is, in my opinion, neither justified upon any view of policy or justice.

The policy of demonstrating the disinterestedness of the Government, of shewing that they are actuated by no feelings of self-aggrandizement, would have been sufficiently exhibited, by undertaking the management of the principality on the part of the Raja; and the baneful example of disloyalty and intrigue being rewarded with a throne would have been avoided.

These are briefly my impressions on the two important points; viz. the deposition of the Raja, and the installation of his brother as his successor: they are the result of a laborious and impartial investigation of the voluminous documents laid before the Court.

(Signed) JOHN SHEPHERD.

East-India House,
4th April 1840.Court of Directors,
8 April 1840.

AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Held on Wednesday, the 8th April 1840,

John Forbes, Esq., a member of this Court, delivered in a dissent from the despatch to India in the Political Department, respecting the deposition of the Raja of Sattara, which was approved on the 1st instant. The same was read; viz.—

Dissent.

DISSENT.

The stability of British rule in India is so blended with its good name, that whatever involves the one, must inevitably affect the other. To what extent our empire of opinion in that quarter may have been shocked, how far the attachments of the Natives to their ancient princes may have been wounded, and in what degree the confidence of the Native princes themselves in the justice of the British Government may have been shaken by the proceedings against the Raja of Sattara, are questions too important to British interests, and above all to the interests of public justice, to allow any one, however humble, to have it inferred against him that he had approved those proceedings, because he had taken no course to signify his dissent. A brief and meagre document, comprising a few ill-written paragraphs, and called a despatch, has just passed the Court of Directors, conveying a complete approval of the measures of the Indian Government on the Sattara question. Had it taken a view, however short and summary, of the facts of the case, and stated reasons for concurring in the measures of the Government abroad, some title to be considered "a state paper" might have been accorded to it; but, wanting as it is in these requisites, it is still further deficient in the essential characteristics of accuracy and consistency in the former, for affirming that, previously to the arrival of Sir James Carnac, "the case against the Raja had, in the progress of the inquiry, assumed a much more serious character than it presented when first brought to our notice;" and in the latter, for deviating from the wise and just disinclination heretofore expressed, "to attach serious importance to the allegations against the Raja." In the interval of Sir James Carnac's departure from this country and his arrival at Bombay, no evidence that could fairly be called trustworthy had been obtained. Exposed, as the Raja was, to the schemes of persons at once vindictive, interested, and ambitious—deprived of the support
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SATTARA
PAPERS.Court of Direc
8 April 184
Dissent.

and assistance of his own servants, but more particularly the favour of the Government having been withdrawn from him, it was no marvel that stories were coined as rapidly as they could be put into circulation. This, indeed, is the quality of all the evidence, from first to last, against the Raja; and, unhappily, the Government of India, and the Authorities at Home, have been the dupes, whilst the Raja has been the victim of such testimony.

No fiction was too gross to obtain the implicit belief, and enjoy the elaborate vindication of the Indian Governments, whilst the most unwearied ingenuity wove a web of intrigue, which caught in its capacious folds, and converted into accomplices, the great states of Europe, the Pasha of Egypt, the venerable but insidious relic of Portuguese greatness at Goa, the deposed and dependent Princes of India, the tribes of Arbusthan,* the Raja of Nepal forsooth, and lastly, the maritime power of the Hubshee! It is to results obtained by evidence on which no grand jury in England would have sent a case to trial, that the Home Government have attached their sanction and approval. "Their warm commendation of the conduct of Sir James Carnac, and their deep lamentation, that the Raja was so infatuated as to reject the liberal terms offered to him," induce some remarks on the proceedings of that functionary, before consideration be had for that monstrous violation and defiance of the forms and principles of British justice, exhibited by all the authorities, in absolutely punishing a supposed delinquent without trial.

About three years previously to Sir James Carnac's appointment to Bombay, an inquiry, so called, had been instituted into certain alleged intrigues of the Raja against the British Government. The opinions of the members of the Governments of India and of Bombay, together with the sentiments of the Secret Committee, were from time to time recorded during the progress of that inquiry. With but one exception,† and that one of great value, the members of the Governments abroad eventually appear to have been satisfied with the evidence adduced against the Raja, though it will be seen that, down to a late period of the so called investigations, there was a good deal of doubt expressed by individual members of the conclusiveness of the proof, as well as of the expediency of following out inquiries connected with affairs, not only in themselves of no importance, but presenting no grounds for apprehension from other quarters.

The Supreme Government addressing the Bombay Government, under date 2d October 1837, and having had before them the proceedings upon one of the charges against the Raja, which was that of combining with Native powers, and with European powers, allies of the British, to overthrow the British Government, declare their opinion, that no such combinations existed. They observe: "As for the alleged combinations with the Portuguese and with Arabia, alluded to in the documents which accompanied your letter of 30th ultimo, the Governor General in Council could not but regard such plots (even had the accounts which had been furnished of them seemed less improbable than they do) to be too extravagant to be entertained for a moment by any person in his senses, while it appears from the report of the Commission, that the Raja of Sattara is by no means deficient in understanding."

With reference to any attempt of the Raja to form a combination of this sort, and especially with the ex-Raja of Nagpore, the Supreme Government state that, in the opinion of the Governor General, the evidence of the chief witness "is in the highest degree suspicious." "The alleged communication (say the Government) between Elojee Bappoo and the ex-Raja of Nagpore is admitted to have originated in some domestic concerns. The evidence of that individual and his servant are full of discrepancies, and it was only after repeated examinations that they were induced to implicate the Raja of Sattara, as having any knowledge of the communications." On another point which had been urged against the Raja by the Bombay Government, the Government of India in the same letter remark: "The Governor General in Council sees little or nothing in the evidence recorded in the documents

" which

* Arabia.

† Mr. Shakespear, who will be adverted to hereafter.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Court of Directors,
8 April 1840.
Dissent.

"which accompanied your letter of the 4th ultimo, to inculcate the Raja. "There is no direct evidence against his Highness of any kind, as regards the supposed intrigue with the Hubshee, save that the Hubshee's Vakeel, who was a relative of Bulwunt Row Chitnavées, the hereditary secretary of state, was introduced to his Highness, that the Raja read a letter and afterwards threw it into the fire, and that he received a present of cocoa-nuts from Bulwunt Row Chitnavées. Against the last-named individual criminality is established. There is nothing of a treasonable nature in the paper found concealed in the Doll; and if there was, evidence has been given to prove that he (the Chitnavées) was the author of its contents."

So much for the sufficiency of the evidence adduced in these particular instances. Then, as to the expediency of such inquiries, the Governor General, in the same letter (2d October 1837), repeats a suggestion contained in the concluding paragraph of his letter of the 7th August, and yet more strongly urges "the inconvenience and uncertainty of these proceedings, and the absolute necessity of bringing them to an early termination." In a letter dated 16th October 1837, in reply to further letters (23d and 25th September 1837) from the Bombay Government, the Secretary to the Supreme Government states: "The proceedings in the communications now acknowledged are not such as to meet the approbation of his Lordship in Council." In the same letter he further states: "The papers now acknowledged have strongly confirmed the Governor General in Council in the opinion already expressed, that this perplexed and protracted scrutiny should be at once brought to a conclusion, or, at least, that all the collateral inquiries which have been in so many quarters instituted should be discontinued as soon as practicable, it being for the real interests of the British Government, whilst it watches and represses with vigilance and firmness the active movements of insurrection, to disregard rumours, and even in many cases the realities of petty and obscure intrigues, dependence being placed for the internal peace of the empire upon its own manifest strength and the fears of the disaffected (of whom, in the very nature of things, from the transfer of power and property, there must be many), and upon the general interests of the population, which cannot but be opposed to violent commotion. His Lordship in Council is sorry at feeling himself compelled to add, that, in the present instance, the idea of mistrust and insecurity on the part of the British Government may have been widely spread, from Rajpootana to Madras and Malabar, though the affair is one of no real importance to our power." He adds: "Against the further prosecution of those hazardous proceedings, the Governor General in Council deems it incumbent upon him to interfere, so as to prevent any further aggravation of this evil."

Again, on the 23d of September 1838, Lord Auckland's estimate of the character of the intrigues, in which it was alleged the Raja was engaged with Goa and Joudpore, shows still more decisively the extreme inexpediency of these gratuitous inquiries. He says: "It being known that the secret has been discovered, it may be impolitic not to take notice of that, from which, had we continued in real or affected ignorance of it, we should have sustained no harm."

Well would it have been for the sagacity of our Governors, if the principles laid down in the foregoing papers had been present to all the functionaries involved in these inquiries? But no: the untiring assiduity of the Bombay Government collected, in large quantities, fresh materials for delusion. Evidence, oral and documentary, not a whit more worthy of belief than that which we have seen condemned by the Supreme Government, though infinitely more voluminous, was heaped upon the credulous judges of the poor Raja, until, by reiteration, the charges moulded into various forms, and with apparently greater claims to attention, came to be seriously entertained, and the Government were fairly driven from their prudential principles. At this period, a new actor appeared on the stage. And here let it be remembered, that whilst the full right is exercised of canvassing and condemning the proceedings of Sir James Carnac, there is no desire on the part of those whom his unfortunate policy

policy has brought into collision with him, to depreciate his excellent personal qualities, or to speak of him but with regard.

Sir James Carnac, a member of the Court of Directors, moreover chairman of that court, and in right of that office a member of the Secret Committee, consequently in full possession of the facts relating to Sattara, left England to assume the Government of Bombay towards the beginning of 1839. He took out with him no instructions to depose the Raja. On the contrary, the universal impression at the India House, confirmed by his own known opinions on the subject, was, that the new Governor was empowered not only to suppress all further inquiry, but to consign the entire question to complete oblivion. One vote, at least, in the Court of Directors was cordially given to the candidate for the vacant Government, one voice was raised in congratulation, that among many grounds of qualification, Sir James Carnac felt for the wrongs of the Raja, and was resolved to stay his protracted persecution. But what was the result? The new Governor, on his landing, fell under evil influence: poison was poured into his ear by some insidious adviser; the idea of conditional pardon took the place of perfect oblivion, and the Raja, under circumstances in which his personal dignity appears to have been little consulted, was required to return to the confidence of the British Government, on terms which the sequel will show to have been equally harsh, uncalled for, and unwise.

The conditions were embodied in a Mahratta memorandum, prefaced by reflections so gratuitously offensive, that if the Governor had desired the rejection of his terms, he could not have adopted means more certain to attain his object.

His Highness was told that information, impeaching his good faith towards the power that had placed him on the throne, had induced the British Government to make inquiries; that those inquiries had satisfied them of his guilt; that he had therefore forfeited their good opinion, and deserved to lose all the advantages which he had heretofore enjoyed under their favour; and lastly, that if he hoped for pardon, he must sign a confession of guilt! No impartial man will deny, that the signing of these terms was a complete implication of such confession. Was this the oblivion untrammelled by terms? Was this amnesty, which common sense would define to be a total erasure from the memory? On the contrary, the royal victim of this oblivion was required to record a permanent, ever-present, self-attested proof of his own treachery and ingratitude; and the bitterness of such treatment was aggravated by the stern denial of all opportunity of explanation or defence.

The first condition, upon the face of it, was superfluous. The Raja was called upon to say that he would "strictly, and in good faith," act up literally to all the articles of the treaty of the 25th September 1819, and especially the second article of that treaty, which is as follows:

"The Raja, for himself, his heirs and successors, engages to hold the territory in subordinate co-operation with the British Government; and to be guided in all matters by the advice of the British Agent at his Highness's Court."

This was a mere repetition of the second article of the treaty by which his Highness was already bound. Besides, if the Government had reason to believe that his Highness had infringed it, the mere reiteration of it could hardly have made it more stringent. But to talk of the Raja "holding his territory in subordinate co-operation," is to infer that he does, or can, hold it independently of the British Government. The idea is ludicrous to a degree. The Raja of Sattara is a powerless prince, whom, on the first act of hostility, a single regiment would divest of his territory. He holds that territory in the most complete and inevitable subordination and dependence, and therefore, with so obvious a fact before the Governor, and after what he had himself recorded on this point, the demand made upon his Highness was an act of gratuitous severity.* No higher authority than that of General Robertson can be adduced, against so much of the condition in question as might be supposed to control the

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Court of Direct
8 April 1840
Dissent.

* Minute, 19th June 1839.

SATTARA
PAPERS.Court of Directors,
8 April 1840.

Dissent.

the right of correspondence ; and when the advocates of justice avail themselves of opinions, rendered doubly valuable by the long official intimacy of him who holds them with the victim of these proceedings, the lovers of independence, of a straightforward, high, and honourable bearing, will gladly offer to that gallant and intelligent officer the humble, but hearty testimony of their admiration. General Robertson says: " Now, in regard to the article, though it " was, no doubt, highly necessary to require the Raja's assent to it when the " treaty was first framed, and when society was unsettled, and our authority " was not so rooted as it is now, yet it does not follow that it was to be so " strictly enforced in all times ensuing, and when circumstances no longer " required the same caution. As times change, so do laws, especially laws " which are highly penal: also, after a time, the very stringent articles in " treaties came to be silently modified and relaxed, and scarcely, if this is ever " the case, a breach of such laws and treaties is punished with the full penal- " ties attached to it. The present is an instance in which such a principle " should be recognised."*

But further he tells us, that Sir John Malcolm had actually relaxed that article of the treaty ; so that, even at a period when greater strictness might have been necessary, a modification was permitted, which, in the present more matured and settled state of society, has been thought to be too perilous to the British power to be continued.

But the privilege of corresponding without the intervention of the Resident was admitted by no less an authority than the Home Government, who distinctly told the Raja, when he sent to the care of the Court letters addressed by him to three gentlemen in England, that though they could not be the medium of his correspondence, there was no restriction whatever upon his direct correspondence.

The Raja has been blamed for employing other agency than that of the Resident : but, not to speak of the inconsiderateness of this blame, under the peculiarly difficult position of the Raja, who, on the one hand, had been deprived of his servants, and on the other, was repulsed by the " reserve " of the Resident, its propriety, and indeed good policy, have been fully recognised by the Governor General himself: for what does his secretary say, in addressing the Bombay Government on the 16th October 1837? He says: " I am desired at the same time to state, with reference to the altered state of " European society, and to the freedom of access to this country now granted, " that the policy may be questionable, of discouraging respectable individuals, " like Dr. Milne, from undertaking the defence of Natives of rank, who would " probably be driven by such discouragement to resort to the aid of adven- " turers, careless alike of the reputation of the accused and of their own Govern- " ment."

So far, then, the second and fifth articles of the treaty have been signally relaxed and modified by the highest authorities, both at home and abroad. After the actual cessation of these restraints, both as to correspondence and the intervention of the Resident, no surprise ought reasonably to be felt at the rejection of this condition. On the contrary, it must be plain that, to be again subjected to them, would be a state of subserviency and degradation, hurtful to his dignity and to the efficient administration of his country. But will any man of common feeling, will any right-thinking Englishman, say that, in this particular case, the suffering party ought to have been debarred from the protection which he implored, from any quarter in which he saw a disposition to sympathize and protect? What says the Acting Resident?† " I waited " upon his Highness the Raja, and delivered the letter to him from the Right " Honourable the Governor, acquainting him of my appointment to officiate " as Resident. Very little passed on this occasion. His Highness's manner " was conciliatory, and he professed himself willing to give every information in " his power." Again: " In the interviews above alluded to, the Raja showed an

* Speech of General Robertson in the debate at the East India House, February 12th, on the case of the Raja of Sattara.

† To Secretary to Governor of Bombay, 24th June 1837.

SATTARA
PAPERS.Court of Direct
8 April 1846
Dissent.

"an inclination to put himself in my hands; but as my communications with him at this crisis are necessarily reserved and distant, in accordance with my instructions, this feeling on his part must be expected to wear off."

A policy more fatal to confidence could not have been devised, or one more certain to create other modes of communication. The Raja naturally felt alarmed and doubtful. He could have no assurance that his wishes would be conveyed to Government, and sought, by other channels, that access which the repulsive demeanour of their Resident had utterly closed against him.

The second condition stipulated for the payment to Appa Sahib of all allowances heretofore received by him, that he should be put in possession of all his private property, and that, should any disputes arise on this head, it was to be adjusted by the Resident. He was, moreover, to be permitted to reside at any place he himself might choose, under the protection of the British Government.

The Raja freely accepted this condition. He discharged from his recollection the deep injuries he had received from his brother, and all his ingratitude, and thus exhibited a noble disposition, the reverse of that "unscrupulous vindictiveness" which has been imputed to him.*

The third condition demanded that the Chitnavees (or hereditary secretary of state) should be dismissed from his Highness's counsels, and not permitted to reside within the Sattara territories, without the sanction of the British Government. The Raja did not yield a reluctant assent to this proposition. That assent was consistent with what had formerly happened. On the 12th August 1836, the Bombay Government declared, that the compliance or non-compliance, on the part of the Raja, with the demand of the Resident for the surrender of the parties charged with the attempt on the fidelity of the troops, might be held to be a test of his guilt or innocence. On the 7th October Colonel Lodwick, then Resident, who was so doubtful of the Raja's compliance that he had actually pointed out the propriety of taking military possession of Sattara, reported that, within one hour from his departure from the palace, the prisoners arrived.

The fourth condition was as follows: "The persons whose names are inserted in a separate list having been guaranteed by the British Government in person, property, and allowances of every description, as the same stood in July 1836, this guarantee is to be binding on your Highness, and all complaints against them are to be referred to the Resident. Should it appear necessary, hereafter, to the British Government to add the names of any other persons to this list, the same guarantee is to be extended to them; and it is to be acted upon in good faith by your Highness, in any manner that may be pointed out by the British Government. All complaints against these persons are to be referred to the British Resident for his adjustment."

If the feelings of the unhappy victim of arbitrary power had previously been hurt, by the attempt to wrest from him a consent to his own degradation, a proposal such as this, so replete with offence, alone was wanting to fill the measure of his indignation and despair. Was it through the medium of such a demand as this that his Highness's penetration "would recognise the moderation of the British Government, and the expediency of a prompt acquiescence?"

The acceptance of this condition would have placed the Raja in an atmosphere of disappointed intrigue and thwarted ambition. He would have been enveloped for the remainder of his days in a cloud of his enemies, whose fresh malignities would have been fed by the impunity wrung from their victim. And to whom was he to appeal? He, a sovereign prince, to appeal for protection from his own subjects? To no other than the Resident; to the very functionary who had calmly listened to, and placidly believed, all their original statements, which, under the influence of a most lamentable credulity, he received with encouragement, and represented with alacrity, as evidence betokening a great convulsion.

• There

* Minute of Governor General, 29th December 1838, paragraph 2.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

urt of Directors,
8 April 1840.
Dissent.

There was no necessity either to propose or to press the fourth condition.

The Raja's ready assent to the second proposition, namely, that of a real, not a nominal amnesty to his brother Appa Sahib, might surely have been taken as an earnest of his forgiving temper; but, if this were not sufficient, the repeated assurances of the Raja, that he would do his enemies no harm, that is, that he would neither contrive nor sanction mischief against them for their machinations against him, ought to have preserved him from this official importunity.

The fourth condition would only have been justifiable by a fair trial. If the Raja had been condemned, either deposal or pardon would have followed. If the former, a guarantee would, of course, have been superfluous; if the latter, it might have been insisted upon. But if the Raja had been acquitted, then it was clear that the witnesses were persons at once perjured and infamous, and unworthy of all protection.

So far from leniency and moderation, these terms were most harsh and oppressive. They could have been accepted only by conscious guilt or a debased spirit; but to a man who felt aggrieved, first by wrongs of which he had complained for years without redress, then by unjust charges, and lastly by the refusal of a fair trial or any trial at all, it was a gross aggravation of the injuries inflicted upon him, to assume that he was guilty of ingratitude and treachery. The Raja's prompt and steady rejection of all terms, unless full opportunity had been given for the vindication of his character, even though that rejection involved the forfeiture of his throne, is the strongest moral proof of the Raja's innocence, worthy of his high and ancient lineage, and of universal respect and admiration.

But if the impropriety of the course adopted by the Government, be good ground for withholding "the warm commendation" so freely accorded by the Court, the reasons for dissenting from the despatch are infinitely increased in force by the melancholy fact, that not one single word of reprehension is addressed to the Government abroad for their great irregularity, to say the least of their proceedings, in not giving the Raja a fair trial; nay, as I have before said, a trial at all.

A great deal of speculation agitated the respective Governments as to the precise form of trial; but every plan that was suggested presented so much difficulty and was so full of inconvenience; so much alarm existed, that the Raja, in the prosecution of his defence, might increase the embarrassments which had already resulted from the *ex-parte* inquiries; and more than all, so sensitive were the authorities on the score of the Raja's dignity, and so jealous of any offence against it, by bringing him before a judicial tribunal, notwithstanding the anxiety of the object of all this tenderness to be heard in his vindication, that it was at length determined, with much delicacy and consideration, at once to depose the Raja without the affront of a trial!

Three modes of dealing with the Raja offered themselves to the mind of Sir James Carnac. First, a formal trial; secondly, hostile operations; thirdly, remonstrance, passing over his offences, and signifying a hope that clemency might give rise to better feelings.

The first of these measures, to which alone it is intended to advert, received no favour from the Governor; because he was of opinion there was no ordinary tribunal to which the Raja could be made amenable, and a special one must be organized, *viz.* a Commission. But this, in his view, would have been objectionable, because it would have exposed the Government to suspicion. The fair fame of the Government might have been damaged by the proceedings of a Commission composed of their servants.

The next objection to a trial by Commission was, that thereby the Government might seem to determine that the Raja was a subject of that Government.

The applicability of this objection to the inquiries that had already taken place was apparently too unimportant to have occurred to the Governor.

Then came a powerful objection, revealing the great, the irrepressible consideration and tenderness already adverted to, *viz.* that by trying him, the Government would be accused of degrading a sovereign from his acknowledged rank,

SATTARA
PAPERS.Court of Direct
8 April 1844
Dissent.

rank, of offering violence to his feelings and dignity, and of assuming a right of superiority to which we have no just claim.

If the Governor felt that there was little force in these "accusations," which he tells us he did, why did he give effect to them by not trying the Raja? But, consistently with his dread of them, he ought to have refrained from the first of his notable conditions, referring to the "subordinate co-operation" of the state of Sattara.

Next came a remarkable objection, which requires no comment. Such a Commission as has been recommended would appear inexpedient, unless we were quite certain of the result; for if the inquiry should terminate in an acquittal, we should lose something in point of character, while the Raja would be little benefited.

The Governor proceeds to say: "A prince suspended from his sovereignty and put upon his trial, even though acquitted, would be irreparably injured in the estimation of his subjects. He would command little respect from them, when they saw with how little respect he was treated by his ally." The opinion of a Governor, who had seen so much of Native princes, is undoubtedly to be treated with respect; but it must, in this case, be received with caution, because the Raja, who may fairly be held to be a competent judge upon the point, earnestly invited the fullest investigation.

The last objections are, in the view of the Governor, quite conclusive, namely, that no more information would be gained beyond what they already had; and that the Commission would only prolong a state of uncertainty and irritation, which had continued long enough, and thus be a source of mischief.

Here was the fatal error, the ineffaceable stain upon all the proceedings of the Government. They conceived that inquiry on one side alone was essential to accurate conclusions; and it will be only fair to assume, that they adopted this unilateral proceeding, because they inferred that the Raja, unlike all other criminals, had nothing to say why judgment should not be passed upon him.

The Governor General, under date 11th July 1839, assents to all these opinions. He, too, "sees the embarrassments of a formal trial," and "all the objections that would be raised, in quarters of the highest authority, against a summary act of extreme severity," and "is compelled to acknowledge the expediency of the milder course." But mark what follows. He relies upon the judgment and discretion of the Governor, but fairly invites him to depose the Raja, by assuring him that he is prepared to support any strong decision upon which he may determine, whether that decision be for the deposition of the Raja, the substitution of his brother, or for any other modified course of curtailing his political and military power.

Mr. Bird, in his minute of the 11th April 1839, and indeed all the then members of the Government, suggest difficulties in the way of a Commission sitting upon the Raja; but it seems to have escaped them, that it was upon evidence obtained before a Commission that a case was framed, on which, in conjunction with the other ill-supported charges, they were all prepared to adopt a course of the severest character against the Raja.* After giving credence to the evidence before the Commission, fatally to the interests of justice, these gentlemen hold, that the case "ought not to be judicially treated, because it is entirely political." How came it, then, that it was by means of a Commission, a strictly judicial tribunal, that this political offender was deemed by them to be guilty, and ultimately punished? If another inquiry by a Commission had not, as they say, been beset with difficulties of all sorts, it is fair to infer they would have granted it. But if they were satisfied, as they say they were, why admit that they would have granted another? If it was because a suspicion arose in their minds, that the poor Raja had not had a fair opportunity of defending himself, then the first inquiry and all its results are valueless, and ought to be revoked.

But if, in the whole of this voluminous and complicated case, a cogent example

* Bengal Secret Consultations. Resolution of Government of India, 1st May 1839.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Court of Directors,
8 April 1840.
Dissent.

example were wanting, of the evil of confiding in an inquiry conducted with reference to the merits of one side alone, it would be found in the history of the charge against the Raja, of attempting to seduce from their allegiance three Native officers of the Company's army.

On the 22d July 1836, Colonel Lodwick transmitted to the Governor of Bombay the depositions of two Soobadars of the 23d regiment, to the effect that attempts had been made on their fidelity by a Brahmin, hitherto unknown to them, who stated himself to be an emissary of various states, who had combined together, with the privity of the Sattara Raja and his Dewan, to expel the British from India. A Havildar was also represented to have been subjected to the attempts of the Brahmin. His deposition was not taken on the 22d July, when the other two officers made their depositions: he was not examined until the 3d October. Subsequent proceedings were reported from time to time, implicating the Raja; but doubt rested on the mind of Colonel Lodwick, as to whether there was really a plot after all. He observes: "It is truly vexatious, that every arrangement tending to discover the plot, if there really is one, should be marred."* This was followed by the arrest, on the 7th October, of several persons charged with being concerned in the conspiracy, if there were one; namely, *Govind Row*, *Dewan*, in the service of the Raja of Sattara; *Untajee*, a begging Brahmin, the person first mentioned, residing in Sattara; *Pursusham*, a *perfumer*, nephew to the Brahmin, residing in the same place; and *Cooshea Maloo*, a menial in the service of Govind Row. The Governor resolved to appoint a Secret Commission for a full inquiry into the case, and he nominated Colonel Lodwick, Mr. Willoughby, and Colonel Ovens, to be members of the Commission.

The proceedings of the Commissioners began at Sattara on the 12th October 1836, and closed on the 6th November 1836.

The Commission received the depositions of all the persons above-mentioned, and they also examined the Raja of Sattara.

The evidence of other persons was also taken, together with that of a *Native*, whose name is not mentioned from his fear of the consequences, but whom it may be well to mention in this place, because he was the secret spring of the plot imputed to the Raja, but in truth *the chief conspirator* against that prince, "*Ballaajee Punt Natoo*."

The result of the inquiry was the conviction, on the part of the Commission, of the existence of the conspiracy, and the guilty participation of the Raja. But the Commissioners remark, "The conspiracy proved before us is not of the extensive and dangerous nature inferred from the first reports on the subject. It is, in fact, as far as we can see, of the most contemptible description, consisting merely of an attempt on the part of his Highness the Raja of Sattara, his Dewan, and an intriguing Brahmin of the worst character, to seduce two Soobadars and a Havildar, and, doubtless through their means, the Sepoys of the 23d regiment from their allegiance, and to secure them to his Highness's interest on some future occasion of need."

The Bombay Government, in their resolutions, dated 12th December 1836, express their concurrence, generally, in the views of the Commissioners, agreeing with them, that the evidence they had submitted was sufficient to convict the Raja of having tampered with the Native officers. In a minute of January 1837 the Governor states, that "no overt act has been proved against the Raja;" and that, as the evidence may not be deemed sufficient to justify the adoption of an extreme course against the Raja, suggests that a middle course should be adopted. In a minute dated 15th August 1837, he adverts to the preceding minute; and, in connection with the charge against his Highness, of having attempted to corrupt the Native officers, observes: "The case against the Raja was not at that time a very strong one. *The evidence, though satisfactory to us, was such as might be questioned, without any obstinate incredulity.*" He adds, his opinion, as to the course which should be adopted towards the Raja, had changed, in consequence of further information respecting the views and proceedings of his Highness. But it should be re-

marked,

* 2d October 1839. Letter to Colonel Felix.

SATTARA
PAPERS.Court of Direct
8 April 1840
Dissent.

marked, that this additional information does not bear upon the charge of his attempt to corrupt the Sepoys. The case against the Raja in this particular, which was not strong in January 1837, had not acquired any strength in the succeeding month of August. The evidence remained in the latter month as it was in the former; such as "might be questioned without any obstinate incredulity."

The "confessions" of the Dewan are much relied on, as proof against the Raja; but when the circumstances under which they were obtained are considered, it is impossible not to see that they were wholly worthless as evidence, and would have been rejected by any properly constituted tribunal. He had already made a partial confession, which was thought by the Bombay Government to be important as far as it went, and further disclosures were expected; but, relative to these, the Government of India make the following remarks: * "Except from the statement which may probably be made by Govind Row, his Lordship in Council sees nothing in all this evidence which is likely to throw light on the conduct of the Raja, so far as it is proper or incumbent on us to inquire into it, and under the circumstances of recent strict duress and expected liberty, under which this evidence is to be elicited, it must be viewed with very considerable caution." And afterwards, in the same despatch, the Government of India observe: "The Governor General in Council will look with some anxiety, though, under the circumstances, not without suspicion, to any further confession which he may offer to support by direct and substantial proof, which may be made by Govind Row, as tending to weaken or confirm the original charge made against the Raja or any of his family, of attempting to seduce our Sepoys from their allegiance."

The strict "duress" in which Govind Row was placed was a judicial expedient so new to English justice, that the employment of it is another proof that the Raja had not had a fair trial.

The facts are these. In December 1835, the Dewan's mother addressed a letter to the Governor, directly implicating in an alleged conspiracy the Raja of Sattara and his family. This document was not received until March 1836. The allegations contained in it were acknowledged to be important, and to demand inquiry. An inquiry was not instituted until the following July. When the investigation was directed to be commenced, promises of lenient treatment in respect to her son were made, by orders of Government, to the mother, provided her statements should prove to be well founded. Witnesses were required: they did not come forward. The reason of their not coming forward Colonel Ovans, the Acting Resident at Sattara, represented to be a belief, on the part of Govind Row's friends, that his release was certain; and, to obviate this difficulty, Colonel Ovans recommended the placing the Dewan in close confinement. To this proposition the Government acceded, and the prisoner was removed from Poona, where he had hitherto been kept, to Ahmednugger. Witnesses came forward; but satisfactory evidence, so called, was not obtained. The Dewan continued in close confinement. At length, however, some of his relations were permitted to visit him, and at their instigation he made the "confessions." Not only was that evidence of a most doubtful nature, but the whole of the evidence taken before the Commission was such as ought to have excited the greatest suspicion.

The three Native officers have given contradictory evidence, and have been contradicted by other witnesses. Independently of his worth as a witness, what is the instance of laxity "of morals," as it is called by the Commission, which ought to have been conclusive of Soogoolam Sing's qualifications, and vitiated all his testimony? "I asked him (Untajee),† why do you make these inquiries? When he said, I will tell you if you take an oath. I said, I swear by Gunga, by the Goddess Bhownee in the fort, and by yourself, being a Brahmin. The witness (here explains the Commission) observes that he did this to give the Brahmin confidence, but not in the manner in which he has now taken his oath on the Geeta and Foolsee. The latter

* 16th October 1837, addressed to Bombay Government.

† Extract Soogoolam Sing's deposition before the Commission, 14th October 1835.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Court of Directors,
8 April 1840.
Dissent.

"latter he considers most binding, but the former was to deceive, as his "suspicions were excited by the Brahmin's inquiries." The anonymous Native who has been divested of the secrecy that surrounded him, Ballajee Punt Natoo, was highly praised by the Commission for his respectability, veracity, and intelligence. "His sources of information are evidently good," say the Commission, "as his statements in one or two instances have been "verified by the event." But what is his character as a witness? Defeated in the chief object of his ambition, that of discharging the functions of Dewan, the whole of his career has been one untiring intrigue against the Raja. In 1835 he appears giving information respecting certain alleged treasonable proceedings against the Raja, which, upon strict inquiry, Colonel Lodwick ascertained to be wholly unfounded.

Mr. Shakespear (minute 11th May 1837) justly characterizes these proceedings against the Raja thus: "If it be asked, why I suppose such an "intrigue possible? I answer, that it appears from Colonel Lodwick's letter "of 13th August 1836, that attempts had been made, some months before, to "prejudice the Resident against the Raja; but that, notwithstanding his "informant* was highly respectable, he attaches no importance to the "information: he did not think it deserving of report to his Government, "though it was apparently almost as susceptible of proof as this story of the "Brahmin."

Before the Commission he appears giving evidence founded on statements made by the Raja's brother, Appa Sahib, whose Dewan he was appointed the instant Appa Sahib ascended the gadi. But if his evidence were suspicious on these grounds, the additional fact is stated of his having lent money to one of the Raja's Jagheerdars, the repayment of which could alone be obtained by the deposal of the Raja, in contravention of whose orders that money had been advanced.

Cooshea Maloo, whose evidence is supposed by the Commission to be strongly corroborative of the statements of the officers, was proved to have been guilty of theft some years since, and to have been inimical to the Dewan, on account of an act of injustice he conceived he had suffered from him. This corroboration would hardly be admitted to be of much value, seeing that, though he confirmed the statements of the officers as to their visits to the Dewan, he does not corroborate their statements in respect to circumstances which occurred during the interviews. Dr. Milne, on behalf of the Raja, submitted to the Government of Bombay a deposition, in which the deponent states Cooshea Maloo had confessed having borne false witness against the Dewan, and, with expressions of great sorrow, lamented his having done so.

Mr. Shakespear, in his minute 11th May, observes: "In regard to the "Dewan's servant, the omission of so material a circumstance as being witness "to their first interview with the Dewan cannot fail to excite in the mind of "any one accustomed to sift Native evidence, a suspicion that he was brought "forward to fill up a link in the chain of swearing against the Dewan, which, "without his evidence, might have been insufficient." In Cooshea Maloo, the Commission view a corroborative and trustworthy witness, whose evidence rendered the strict cross-examination of the Native officers unnecessary. It was the evidence of this person that induced the Commission to make the following observation. "We consider that the two interviews at the Dewan's "house have been corroborated in a *most extraordinary*, and as regards the "Native officers, we may almost say *providential manner*."

Pursusham corroborated some of the statements of the Native officers, to the extent of their having been at his house with Untajee, and their having gone out disguised in cloaks, which they had put on in his shop.

Anund Bhutt, or Untajec, the Commission represent to be "an intriguing "Brahmin of the worst character." His relations state, that they cannot trust him, and avoid him. He was proved to be a common cheat, and a thief. As a witness, as it might be expected under these circumstances, he would tell one story and then another. The Commission observe, "he prevaricates by the hour;" and he

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he concludes by declaring himself to be the sole author of the plot; that all the representations he had made to the Native officers were false; that what he had stated before the Commission to have taken place at the Dewan's and at the Raja's was also false; and that he *did* take the Soobadars to those places to make their salaam, and for no other purpose, having previously denied that he had taken them either to the Dewan's or to the Raja's.

But what can be more conclusive against the evidence on this charge, than the valuable minute of Mr. Shakespear, dated 11th May 1837? He denounces the whole of the evidence: he looks "in vain for any thing tangible or solid, in the shape of proof, for his mind to rest upon;" moreover, he cannot understand on what principle the Commission abstained from cross-examining the Native officers, as to the discrepancies in their original depositions compared with those given before them. The Commission feebly vindicate their conduct in omitting this indispensable process in all inquiries, and only display their lamentable incompetency to the duties entrusted to them.

In a word, then, as to the charges against the Raja. On the first charge, that of tampering with the Native officers, the highly judicial mind of Mr. Shakespear has stamped the whole of the proceedings before the Committee as inconsequential and worthless; and, on a recent occasion, a member of that very Commission publicly declared his lasting sorrow, that he had not protested against its report.*

On the second charge, independently of the opinion of the Governor General before adverted to, on the incredible extravagance of the Goa intrigue, another Member of the Council, after an elaborate exposure of the evidence, is under the necessity of making an important admission. "If," says Mr. Robertson, "the case stood by itself, it might be questionable in how far it could be considered conclusive; but, taken in conjunction with the others now before us, it cannot be denied that it brings a vast accession to the body of proof on record against the Raja of Sattara."† It will be obvious, that the opinion of Mr. Robertson, thus conditionally put, is not of the less value; for it was his province, as a judge, to take each case by itself, to separate and define the merits of each, and not to confound them. The inference, from his manner of stating his opinion, undoubtedly is, that he held the charge in question not established by itself.

The third charge, of correspondence with the ex-Raja of Nagpore. Really the mere statement of these charges defies all gravity: it is satisfactorily disposed of by the Governor General on the 2d October 1837.

When the estimate of the Raja's character, entertained no long while since by the British Government, is called to mind, it is difficult to believe, either that he could have descended so rapidly from his acknowledged virtue, or been treated as he has been. In 1829 the Court are "impressed with a highly favourable opinion of the administration of the Raja of Sattara. He appears to be remarkable among the princes of India for his mildness, frugality, and attention to business; to be sensible of what he owes to the British Government, and of the necessity of maintaining a good understanding with it; nor does he, in his intercourse with your officers, furnish any grounds of complaint, except an occasional manifestation of that jealousy of our controlling power, which it can hardly be expected that any Native princes, however well disposed to us, should entirely suppress."‡

Again,§ "The information which your records supply, as to the proceedings of the Raja of Sattara, continues to confirm the highly favourable opinion we had formed of his disposition and of his capacity for Government."

"His administration of a certain jagheer is described as having been distinguished for good sense and disinterestedness. His conduct to the dependent Jagheerdars was just and conciliatory; and in his general government, while

* Extract from Mr. Robertson's speech at the annual meeting of the Directors, 1839.

† Mr. Robertson's minute, 8th March 1839.

‡ Political Letter to Bombay, 19th August 1829.

§ Political Letter to Bombay, 21st September 1831.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Court of Directors,
8 April 1840.
Dissent.

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SATTARA
PAPERS.Court of Directors.
8 April 1840.
Dissent.

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* General Lodwick's speech at the India-House on the Sattara debate.

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SATTARA
PAPERS.

Court of Directors,
8 April 1840.
Dissent.

"he appears to have seldom stood in need of your advice, he seems to have been duly sensible of its value, on the few occasions when it was offered."

"With respect to your suggestion, that we should confer upon his Highness some testimonial of our sense of the public spirit and liberality by which he is distinguished among the Native princes of India, it is for you to inform us what it should be."*

With reference to an account drawn up by Colonel Robertson, then Resident at Sattara, which exhibited the Raja in a most favourable light, the Court observe:† "He appears to be most attentive to business, superintending every department of his government without the aid of a minister. He confines his own expenses, and those of all under him, within fixed limits. He pays all his establishments with perfect regularity; but when, in any year, his resources are inadequate to his fixed expenses, a rateable reduction is made from all allowances, not excepting his own. When he requested your opinion on a project for laying a tax upon rent-free lands, his views appear to have extended no further than the subjecting the owners of those lands to the same rateable reduction, for the purpose of meeting defalcations of revenue, to which all his officers and he himself are subject. However, the measure, even thus limited, would have been a breach of faith; and as your advice was asked, you were bound to discountenance it. We should have regretted if a prince, whose administration is a model to all Native rulers, had been guilty of any infringement of the proprietary rights of a large class of his subjects. By his frugal and careful management, the Raja has kept free from debt; and as he does not accumulate, he is enabled to expend large sums in liberality and in the improvement of his country. We have read with great pleasure the following passage from Lieutenant-Colonel Robertson's despatch: 'He also maintains a well-regulated school at Sattara, in which he has teachers of great respectability, both as to character and attainments. This seminary was closely examined in all its details, last October, by a very competent judge, the Reverend Mr. Stevenson, of the Scottish Mission, who, I am happy to say, expressed the highest satisfaction with it, and did not scruple to say, he considered it a far more useful establishment than the college at Poona. In this seminary his Highness teaches Mahratta, Sanscrit, and the sciences usually taught, in that tongue, Persian, and English, as well as arithmetic, surveying, and other kinds of knowledge useful in the transaction of public business. In this school his Highness has a number of youths of his own caste and relations of his (whose forefathers despised all such tuition) training up for his public service, and this is one of the causes why the Brahmins are hostile to him.'

"It appears to us," the Court continue, "just and right, that you should from time to time signify to the Raja, not only your own, but our high satisfaction at his public conduct and the excellence of his administration."

On Wednesday, the 22d July 1835, it was "Resolved, that having had reference to the letter from Bombay in the Political Department, dated the 21st January last, in respect to the description of testimonial that would be most acceptable to the Raja of Sattara as a mark of the Court's sense of his conduct, the Chairman and Deputy-Chairman be requested to purchase a sword suitable to the occasion, and that a communication be made to the Bombay Government on the subject, at the period of sending out the sword, accompanied by a letter from the Court, to be presented to the Raja.

"That, in framing such letter, it be declared, that this mark of distinction is founded, not solely on the public spirit evinced by the Raja in the construction of roads and the execution of other public works, as suggested by the Government of Bombay, but on the general and distinguished merits of his Highness's administration, which so justly entitle him to applause, as well as on the liberality which he has displayed in disbursing his private funds for public purposes."

On the 29th December 1835, the following letter was addressed to the Raja:

"Your

* Political Letter to Bombay, 11th June 1834.

† Political Letter to Bombay, 26th September 1834.

SATTARA
PAPERS.Court of Directors
8 April 1840.

Dissent.

"Your Highness:

"We have been highly gratified by the information from time to time transmitted to us by our Government, on the subject of your Highness's exemplary fulfilment of the duties of that elevated situation in which it has pleased Providence to place you.

"A course of conduct so suitable to your Highness's exalted station, and so well calculated to promote the prosperity of your dominions and the happiness of your people, as that which you have wisely and uniformly pursued, while it reflects the highest honour on your character, has imparted to our minds the feelings of unqualified satisfaction and pleasure. The liberality, also, which you have displayed, in executing, at your own cost, various public works of great utility, and which has so justly raised your reputation in the eyes of the princes and people of India, gives you an additional claim to our approbation, respect, and applause.

"Impressed with these sentiments, the Court of Directors of the East-India Company have unanimously resolved to transmit to you a sword, which will be presented to you through the Government of Bombay, and which, we trust, you will receive with satisfaction, as a token of their high esteem and regard.

"With sincere wishes for your health and prosperity, we subscribe ourselves, in the name of the Court,

"Your Highness's most faithful friends,

(Signed) "W. S. CLARKE, Chairman,
"J. R. CARNAC, Deputy."

It is painful to add, that both letter and sword remain in store at Bombay. However, on the 22d November 1837, a period of nearly two years from the time that the Court could not control their redundant admiration, and when they proposed to convey their "esteem and regard," through the ill-omened token of a sword, a term, moreover, of sixteen months from the explosion of the plot, they again take occasion to express the pleasure they feel from the Resident's reports of the poor Raja's administration of his jagheers. And here end the laudatory effusions of the fickle Court. But why were not the sword and letter sent? The resolution was dated in July 1835, and the letter in December of that year, whereas the plot was not brought out until July 1836, seven months after the letter had been written. If it be worth while to speculate, at this time of day, on the probable effect that the presentation of such a testimonial and the expression of such glowing attachment might have had upon the Raja, at the time that he was aggrieved by the continued infliction of wrong, and the almost studied neglect of his complaints, one might venture to affirm, that such proofs of respect would at once have soothed his injured feelings; nay more, they might have foiled the schemes of his enemies, by showing that he still enjoyed the favour of the Government; and more than all, we might have been spared the intolerable stigma, that the friendless and persecuted, but bold and independent Raja, had been deposed, not for his crimes, but because he had dared, in assertion of his innocence, to reject the humiliating terms proposed to him. Let it never be forgotten in the narrative of this painful case, that the first aggressors were the British Government in the question of the Jagheerdars. The Governor tells the Court, that the Raja refused to sign the conditions by reason of his repugnance to the treaty; that this was the stumbling-block. But this position is wholly untenable. The Raja insisted, that the Company had, in breach of Mr. Elphinstone's treaty, wrongfully deprived him of his jagheers. He demanded the adherence of the Government to its obligations: his claims were repeatedly put forward, founded alone on the treaty. Is it fair, then, to infer, that he sought to weaken the only grounds on which those claims rested, or to abrogate the charter by which he held his territory? The Raja's rights, asserted by those most competent to judge of them, and fully admitted by the Home Authorities, were pertinaciously resisted by the Bombay Government, whilst all his appeals were unheeded, his grievances aggravated by delay, and still more deeply embittered by withholding from him the despatch which conveyed

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Court of Directors,
8 April 1840.
Dissent.

the sanction to his claims. It was such a course of proceeding as this that constituted, in effect, a breach of the treaty by the British Government, more decided and tangible than any they sought to fix upon the helpless Raja, by the imputation of the most incredible schemes.

Finally. I object to this despatch, because no sufficient grounds appear for deviating from the just and proper conclusions entertained by the Court down to the 13th June 1838.

We then gave it as our "decided opinion, that it would be not only a waste of time, but seriously detrimental to the character of our Government, to carry on any further inquiry in the matter;" and nothing has since occurred to induce us to alter that opinion, though, unhappily, much has happened to cast a shade upon our British name. I should not feel satisfied, if I did not deprecate, with all the earnestness of which I am capable, the manner in which evidence has been obtained in this case. Some latitude, undoubtedly, should be allowed to functionaries, in employing means to detect and thwart the machinations of political enemies; but it must be admitted, that these means ought to be adapted to the character of the nation for whose safety it is intended to provide. It cannot, surely, be necessary to resort to the intercepting of letters, for preserving the empire of this country in India in the commanding position it occupies.

The nervous apprehension that could extract danger from a peaceful pilgrimage to Mecca* may be endured and pitied; but the zeal of the officer, who mistakes the true dignity of his country, ought to be checked and reproofed.

A mass of fiction, as I verily believe, consisting of letters not proved to be authentic, of seals and ciphers forged, of oral evidence obtained under every suspicion of undue influence, of partnerships contracted with bankers and false entries made in their books—every artifice, in short, that the great cunning, great ability, deep personal interest, and inveterate hatred of Ballajee Punt Natoo, and his ignoble instrument, Appa Sahib, could employ, has been directed against the devoted prince; and these, on the other hand, have been assisted in their fatal effects by the weak credulity of every member of the two Governments abroad.

(Signed) JOHN FORBES.

India-House,
8th April 1840.

Court of Directors,
24 April 1840.

AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Held on Friday, the 24th April 1840,

A letter from N. B. Edmonstone, Esq., a member of this Court, submitting a paper of observations, in support of the view taken by the Court in their despatch to the Government of India in the Political department, dated the 1st April, No. 15, of 1840, reviewing the proceedings of the Bombay Government connected with the deposition of the Raja of Sattara, was read.

TO THE HONOURABLE THE COURT OF DIRECTORS,

&c. &c. &c.

HONOURABLE SIRS:

The unusual importance of the decision lately passed by your Honourable Court on the proceedings of the Government of Bombay relative to the Raja of Sattara, the sensation which the case of that unfortunate and misguided prince

* The Resident states, that Syud Meer and Ibrahim, in addition to the representations with which they were charged to the English Government, took with them a Persian paper to be taken to the Russians. It is also stated as a very remarkable fact, that immediately after the receipt of the 10,000 rupees by Syud Meer in September 1837, he appears to have left Bombay, ostensibly for Mecca, and that he is now reported to be in Europe.

prince has excited in the public mind, and the probability of a further agitation of the question of his dethronement, have created a desire, on my part, to place upon record a statement of the view which I take of the merits of that question, and the considerations which led me to concur in the opinion of the majority of the Honourable Court.

I accordingly take the liberty of submitting for your perusal and for record the accompanying paper of observations, trusting that the peculiarity of the occasion will acquit me of undue presumption, in thus drawing your attention to the result of that anxious and deliberate attention which, as a member of your Honourable Court, it has been my duty to bestow on this particularly interesting and important subject.

I have the honour to be, Honourable Sirs,

Your most obedient faithful servant,

(Signed) N. B. EDMONSTONE.

India-House,
20th April 1840.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Court of Directors
24 April 1840.

OBSERVATIONS IN THE CASE OF THE RAJA OF SATTARA.

Observation

1. For the purpose of forming a correct judgment on the question of the Raja of Sattara's deprivation of his sovereignty, recently decided by the Court, it seems necessary to acquire, in the first instance, a just and accurate notion of his true position relatively to the British Government, and comparatively with that of other states and principalities in alliance or connection with that Government (such, for instance, as Hyderabad, Guzerat, the Rajpoot States, Oude, and other anciently established dominions); because the state of Sattara has been treated as on a footing with these, and the Raja has been represented as having succeeded to his hereditary dominion in the character of the lineal descendant of the great Sevajee, the founder of what was termed the Mahratta empire.

2. I consider the principality of Sattara to be in a situation essentially different from all other principalities or states with which we are connected by subsidiary or protective engagements. The latter were anciently established dominions or chiefships. We negotiated with their heads, as parties already in the possession of territory, and in the exercise of authority; excepting, however, the Raja of Mysore, whose case, though in one respect analogous to that of the Raja of Sattara, both having been excluded from power and kept in confinement by the usurpers of their ancestral sovereignty, yet differs in this material point, that the former was declaredly placed by us in the actual enjoyment of his hereditary title and dominion, from both of which the latter was professedly and guardedly excluded.

3. The principality of Sattara had no existence antecedently to the formation of the treaty with the Raja. By the subversion of the Peishwa's power, his territorial possessions, of which the territories now composing the state of Sattara formed a part, together with all the rights of sovereignty and supremacy which he exercised, devolved upon us. The Mahratta federative compact was dissolved; the nominal supremacy of the imprisoned descendant of Sevajee was virtually extinguished; the materials which formerly constituted the Mahratta empire were dissipated. The full extent of the Raja's claim upon the justice, and even the liberality, of the British Government might have been satisfied by a stipend or a jagheer: its policy awarded to him a dominion; under special restrictions however, having specifically for object to guard against the assumption of that titular supremacy to which he still considered himself to possess an hereditary claim.

4. It was of primary importance, with reference not only to the state of affairs under the recent subversion of the Peishwa's power, but also to future contingent events, to extinguish, as far as possible, in the minds of the Mahratta chiefs, nobles, and people, every hope of the revival of the Mahratta federation,

federation, through the instrumentality of a nominal representation of its former head, to whom they might, in a favourable crisis of affairs, look as a rallying point.* The disposition, therefore, which Raja Pertaub Sing, at the period of his liberation, and during the negotiation which preceded the treaty, so decidedly manifested, to maintain the titular supremacy which had descended to him from his ancestor,† and which was nominally recognised both by the Peishwa and the other branches of the federation, indicated the necessity of providing against it by special guards in the treaty.‡ Accordingly, among other restrictions, it is expressly declared in the fifth article, that even any intercourse on his part with foreign powers, or with sirdars, jagheerdars, chiefs, and ministers, not rendered by the treaty subject to his authority, will involve the forfeiture of the dominion then conferred on him.

5. The dominion, therefore, to which the Raja became elevated on his liberation, was not, as I have set out with observing, that of a pre-existing state, to the sovereignty of which he succeeds by hereditary title. It was the absolute creation of the British power: it was the dominion of a tract of territory gratuitously, but conditionally, granted to Raja Pertaub Sing, in consideration (as expressed in the preamble of the treaty) of the antiquity of his house, and for the maintenance of his family in comfort and dignity. The treaty formed with him was not, like our other treaties, made with the actual or recognised chief of a state. It made him such; and it denounced the forfeiture of his dominion, if he should at any time break through certain specified restrictions, declared to be fundamental.

6. No such provision could find admittance into ordinary treaties contracted with the chiefs of established states. Nothing can warrant *their* deposal, and consequent forfeiture of territory, but acts which imparted to the other contracting power the rights of war. In the one case, it is the resumption of a gift, in consequence of a breach of certain specific conditions, even though not amounting to actual hostility, yet on the observance of which the continuance of the agreement was declared to depend: in the other, it is the dissolution of the ties of amity, and the consequent annihilation of the alliance by the hostility of one of the contracting parties. In one case, we resume what was our own, in consequence of an abuse of the gift; in the other, we acquire, under the rights of legitimate war, a territory which was not before in our possession. The Raja of Sattara, therefore, might justly lose his dominion by acts short of those which would warrant the deposal of one of our allies.

7. The question, then, is reduced simply to this. Has, or has not, the Raja violated the fundamental article of the treaty, both literally and essentially, by maintaining an intercourse with parties coming under the description of those specified in that article, and by conducting himself, in this respect, in a spirit subversive of the object for which its restrictions were imposed on him?

The

* The Raja of Sattara is one of the several princes and chiefs, who are named as parties to the hostile confederacy developed by the emissaries who were apprehended within the territories of Madras in the year 1838. He is represented as "aiming at the re-establishment of the Mahratta dominion in its pristine state," and the part to be immediately acted by him at the outbreak of the conspiracy was the reduction of Nagpore, on the throne of which state Appa Sahib was to be replaced. He was, moreover, stated to be in correspondence with the Raja of Joudpore, one of the specified confederates under whose protection Appa Sahib was residing, and to be the channel of communication, also, between Mobaurok-oo-dowlah of Hyderabad (an alleged active instrument in the formation of the conspiracy) and the Raja of Joudpore.

† See report from the principal Collector and Magistrate of Nellore to the Government of Madras, dated 11th and 15th December 1838, part of the Kurnool papers.

‡ I do not adduce the above as facts actually established against the Raja of Sattara; they stand, however, at least upon the same grounds of credibility as the accusations against the other specified parties. I advert to them, as being particularly apposite to the observation contained in this part of the text.

† About ninety years have elapsed since the Peishwa, in the time of the first Sahoo Raja, became *de facto* the sovereign of the Mahratta empire.

‡ With the knowledge of this strong bias in the Raja's mind, it is to be regretted that Sattara, the metropolis of the empire under the dominion of Sevajee and his successors, was selected to be the capital of Raja Pertaub Sing. That location naturally assimilated with, and fostered his ambitious pretensions.

The intrinsically dangerous or innocuous nature of any branch of those limitations is not an element in the question.* they were deemed necessary, as safeguards against the future, and a breach of those restrictions was therefore declared, and properly declared, to incur the forfeiture of the Raja's conditional dominion. The British Government was no longer bound by the obligations which it gratuitously took upon itself when it conferred this new dominion upon the Raja, than while he should continue to act in accordance with the character, in which only he was permitted to enter into engagements with that Government.

**SATTARA
PAPERS.**
Court of Directors
24 April 1840.
Observations.

8. Although, before his liberation, kept a close prisoner at Sattara, and subjected, even in a greater degree than his predecessors, to privations and indignities,† he was permitted to retain all the outward forms of oriental sovereignty, and all the mockery of homage was observed towards him. Under these circumstances, the Raja not unnaturally cherished the wildest and most extravagant notions of his importance, which, in spite of every precaution, accompanied him on his elevation to the dominion of Sattara.

9. When the Raja was liberated from his confinement in the Peishwa's camp by the result of the battle of Ashtee, and seated on the throne of Sattara, Captain Grant was appointed to be the Resident at his Court, and was vested with the temporary charge of the territory constituting the Raja's principality. In the instructions issued to that officer, on that occasion, for the guidance of his conduct in the administration of the Government of the country, he was particularly directed to do all in his power to subdue the Raja's extravagant pretensions, and to impress upon his mind the most decided understanding, that it was not intended to revive, even in name, the empire of Sevajee, but to create for him a new and separate state.

10. When the treaty was concluded some time afterwards, the Raja was permitted to assume the Government, but under the strict superintendence and control of the Resident. The Raja took frequent occasion to express his gratitude to the British Government for the benefits conferred on him, and his determination to be guided in every thing by its wishes, whenever he should be relieved from the control under which he exercised his authority, and an assurance that he would never adopt any measures of importance without obtaining the assent of the Resident.

11. This manifestation of a sincere desire to conduct himself in accordance with the true spirit of the treaty, combined with the talents which he had displayed, and the experience he had acquired, indicated to the British Government, that the time had arrived when the restraints under which he had acted might safely be removed; and, accordingly, on the 5th April 1822, the anniversary of his instalment in the principality of Sattara, he was formally vested with the uncontrolled administration of his affairs.

12. The record of transactions, and the correspondence of the successive Residents, however, show that the Raja never did, in fact, abandon the pretensions against which so much pains were taken to guard. It was not very long after taking the management of the country into his own hands, that he exhibited by overt acts his assumption of the character and functions of titular head of the Mahrattas, and violated the restrictions expressly framed to restrain such assumption. That the conduct of the Raja, in these respects, was regarded by the successive Residents as of a nature to lead to the loss of his dominion, is shown by the warnings which each of them had occasion to give him. Colonel Briggs, in making known to Government certain reports he had received of

* It may be proper to explain, that I here refer to what constitutes a breach of the spirit as well as the letter, and is opposed to the object of the restrictions of the fifth article of the treaty, which may be quite consistent with intrigues, such as those in question, too absurd to create danger or to produce mischief, however designed by the parties engaged in them.

† The cause of this additional restraint was an attempt, on the part of his immediate predecessor, shortly before his death, to assert his authority as head of the Mahratta state. He escaped from Sattara and placed himself at the head of a body of troops which he had found means to assemble, but was defeated and captured, and replaced in confinement.

of the Raja's secret communications with the Raja of Kolapore (at a time when the local Government was in a state of collision with that chief), and of his encouraging some of the Jagheerdars in their apparent disposition to recognise his supremacy, writes prophetically of the tendency of his proceedings to produce the calamity which has actually fallen upon him; for, after adverting to the above stated information, he adds:

"These reports are very likely to be true. They need, however, create no suspicion in the mind of the Government as to the fidelity and attachment of the present Raja, who, I most sincerely believe, has too much good sense ever to be engaged, directly or indirectly, in a war with this Government. He is, however, extremely tenacious of his prerogative, and will every day more and more resist our control. He has lately been flattered by those around him with an erroneous estimate of his own importance, and he has clearly evinced strong inclinations to extend his connexions beyond the limits prescribed by treaty. It will be fortunate, perhaps, for his Highness himself, if events afford to the Bombay Government an early opportunity to give him timely warning, or I should be very apprehensive that he may succeed in involving himself in secret communications with those who may, at some future period, provoke the resentment of Government, when it is likely a development of a system of intrigue with his Highness may take place, which will altogether shake our confidence, and may tend to his ultimate ruin."

13. A representation on the subject of these intrigues having been subsequently made to the Raja by the Honourable Mr. Elphinstone, through the Assistant and then Acting Resident, Mr. William Simson, the Raja earnestly denied the truth of them, renewing, at the same time, his professions of gratitude and attachment to the British Government; and he was informed, in reply, that the British Government derived entire satisfaction from his assurances, and that the communication had been made to him only to guard him against the risk of being insensibly drawn into a neglect of the article of the treaty restricting his intercourse with foreign chiefs, and not from any suspicion of his harbouring unfriendly designs.

14. It appears from the correspondence, that when the Goa intrigue was made known to the Resident, Colonel (now Major General) Robertson, that officer, although he attached no importance to the intrigue itself (no doubt from its manifest absurdity), and entertained no suspicion of any hostile designs on the part of the Raja, yet deemed it proper to represent its impropriety to the Raja, with the warning, *that the prosecution of it would involve him in great difficulty, and be the ruin of the Maharaj and the raj*: and a similar warning was subsequently conveyed to him by General Robertson's successor, Colonel (now Major General) Lodwick, who intimated to him that the *fate of Bajee Row would be his own*.

15. The view which I have taken of the essential difference between the relative position of the Raja of Sattara, and of that of the other chiefs of ancient states connected with us by treaty, showing that the former might pursue a course of conduct warranting the resumption of the principality conferred on him, which on the part of any one of the latter, would not justify the measure of his deposal, appears to be strongly supported by the above-recited proceedings of the several Residents, and of the Government itself, each of those authorities having announced to the Raja the loss of his dominion, as the eventual consequence of a perseverance in the conduct ascribed to him, simultaneously with a declared conviction of the sincerity of his attachment. Those proceedings, therefore, involve the support of this position, that the Raja incurred the forfeiture of his dominion, if he assumed and acted upon pretensions not consistent with the character in which alone he was recognised as the head of the state of Sattara, and expressly guarded against by the restrictive provisions of the treaty, irrespective of the intrinsic quality of the acts emanating from and establishing the fact of such assumption. That he did assume such pretensions, has been conclusively shown by the record of events and transactions; and that he violated the letter of the restrictions of the fifth article, declared to be fundamental

mental, and to the breach of which was annexed the forfeiture of his dominion, is unquestionable, and indeed is not denied by himself: he only strives to vindicate it.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Court of Directors
24 April 1840
Observations

16. The vast mass of evidence, the result of the laborious and extensive investigations pursued under the authority of the local Government, has demonstrated, beyond the possibility of doubt, the actual prosecution of intrigues, through the agency of some of the Raja's confidential servants, of a character hostile to the British Government. Their extreme folly and absurdity take nothing from the guilt of the parties concerned in them; as has been argued by the late Sir Robert Grant, in his minute of the 5th of May 1838. Of the Raja's knowledge and tacit approval, if not his active encouragement of them, as little doubt can, in my opinion, be entertained. It seems to me to be utterly impossible, that such proceedings as are disclosed by the voluminous documents on the subject, carried on for a course of years by parties, two of whom, at least, were the Raja's most confidential companions and advisers, could have been unknown to him. Two successive Governors of Bombay and the members of their Council, and the Governor General of India and the members of his Council also (with the partial exception of one of the latter, who, from the habit of thinking derived from his anterior course of public service, applied the test of strict judicial process to some of the charges), have recorded their entire conviction of the Raja's participation; which, indeed, appears to be irrefragably demonstrated, by the elaborate and able minutes both of the late Governor of Bombay and the present Governor, Sir James Rivett Carnac, the bias of whose feelings and wishes must have been strongly in favour of his exoneration from the charge.

17. The confidence expressed by every Resident at the Raja's Court, and by the Government itself, in his professed attachment and gratitude to the power which transferred him from a prison to a throne, would seem strongly to oppose the belief of his being a participator in the wretched and preposterous intrigues carried on in his name; but there is evidence sufficient to show, that his attachment had become materially impaired by the resistance opposed to his pretensions to the exercise of ancestral supremacy, as manifested in his controversies with the Bombay Government on the subject of the Jagheerdars, and his gratitude might lose much of its force and influence, from finding the object of his ruling passion so systematically thwarted; whilst, under a knowledge of the ever-existing elements of convulsion in India, a latent reflection may have possessed his mind, that another of those frequent critical conjunctures, on the precarious issue of which the preservation of our power depended, might favour the realization of his dreams of ancestral grandeur.

18. It is alleged, however, that the Raja has been condemned on *ex-parte* evidence, and not even had an opportunity of defending himself against the specific charges brought against him. But I maintain that this is a political, not a judicial question. Differences between states, involving the issues of peace or war, or the forfeiture of the dominion of a dependent chief, cannot be placed on the footing of a criminal trial in a court of judicature. They are not in a position to become subject to the operation of laws established for the dispensation of justice between individuals. No tribunal exists, and none can be formed, of a nature qualified to ascertain and appreciate the merits of a cause in which ruling powers are the parties, and into which political circumstances and considerations so largely enter as they do in the present case. It is inconsistent with all principle and all practice, for a great and paramount state, such as that of the British Government in India, to submit the adjustment of its political rights to the judgment of a subordinate tribunal. The equity of declaring the Raja's forfeiture of his dominion turns not upon judicial, but upon political points, arising out of the provisions of a treaty. Although, under the scrupulous requirements of a court of justice for the legal conviction of an accused party, the Raja was acquitted of the specific charges brought against him before any tribunal constituted for the trial of the case, this would not affect the justice of his deposal. The firmest and

SATTARA
PAPERS.Court of Directors,
24 April 1840.
Observations.

best founded conviction of his having actually been a party to the alleged intrigues, and his infraction of the terms of the treaty, is consistent with such an acquittal, and on political grounds is amply sufficient to justify his deprivation of a dominion, which he failed to exercise in conformity to its fundamental conditions.

19. This question has, however, been ably argued in the minutes of the chief authorities in India, who, I think, have conclusively shown, not only the inexpediency, but the inefficiency of the suggested procedure, and the practical evil and embarrassment unavoidably attending it, whatever might be the result of the investigation.

20. Finally, I must maintain, that in political questions involving the rights, interests, and conduct of its allies and dependents, the ruling power is the sole and proper judge, and that, in the case now under consideration, the British Government was not required to put the Raja on his trial, and to be governed by the issue of it, but was strictly justified in deciding, on the ground of recorded and undisputed facts, that by his conduct he had incurred the forfeiture of his dominion, and that it was placed under the absolute necessity of carrying that decision into effect, on his refusing to accede to the terms of a new treaty which, although it necessarily involved either a direct or inferential acknowledgment of his misconduct, yet only required him, in future, to abide by the principles of his original agreement, the conditions of which he had failed to observe.

(Signed) N. B. EDMONSTONE.

India-House,
20th April 1840.Court of Directors,
29 April 1840.

AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Held on Wednesday, the 29th April 1840,

A letter signed by William Astell, Esq., William Stanley Clarke, Esq., Sir Robert Campbell, Bart., J. Thornhill, Esq., Henry Alexander, Esq., Sir Richard Jenkins, John Masterman, Esq., Francis Warden, Esq., and Sir Henry Willock, members of this Court, stating that, being desirous to place upon record a statement of the considerations which led them to concur in the opinion of the majority of the Court, on the proceedings of the Government of Bombay relative to the Raja of Sattara, they have to express their unqualified concurrence in the able exposition afforded by Mr. Edmonstone of the merits of that important case, was read :

HONOURABLE SIRS :

Equally desirous with our Colleague, Mr. Edmonstone, to place upon record a statement of the considerations which led us to concur in the opinion of the majority of the Honourable Court on the proceedings of the Government of Bombay relative to the Raja of Sattara, we have, as the best mode of accomplishing that object, to express our unqualified concurrence in the able exposition afforded by Mr. Edmonstone of the merits of that important case.

We have the honour to be, Honourable Sirs,

Your most obedient and faithful servants,

(Signed) W. ASTELL,
W. STANLEY CLARKE,
ROBERT CAMPBELL,
J. THORNHILL,
H. ALEXANDER,
RD. JENKINS,
JNO. MASTERMAN,
F. WARDEN,
HENRY WILLOCK.East-India House,
25 April 1840.The Honourable the Court of Directors
of the East-India Company.

AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

*Held on Wednesday, the 13th May 1840,*SATTARA
PAPERS.Court of Directors
13 May 1840.

A letter from Russell Ellice, Esq., dated the 7th instant, expressing his unqualified concurrence in the able exposition afforded by Mr. Edmonstone of the merits of the case of the Raja of Sattara, was read :

East-India House, 7th May 1840.

HONOURABLE SIRS :

Being desirous of placing upon record a statement of the considerations which led me to concur in the opinion of the majority of the Court on the proceedings of the Government of Bombay relative to the Raja of Sattara, I have, as the best mode of accomplishing that object, to express my unqualified concurrence in the able exposition afforded by my Colleague, Mr. Edmonstone, of the merits of that important case.

I have the honour to be, Honourable Sirs,

Your most obedient and faithful servant,

(Signed) RUSSELL ELLICE.

The Honourable The Court of Directors
of the East-India Company.

SUPPLEMENTARY PAPERS

SUPPLEMENTARY PAPERS.

SECRET LETTER FROM BOMBAY,

Dated 29th January 1840.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Secret Letter to
Bombay.
29 Jan. 1840

1. We beg to submit to your Honourable Committee extracts from the further proceedings of this Government, relative to the affairs of Sattara, subsequent to our last despatch on the same subject, dated the 31st December, No. 134 of 1839.

2. From Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens's letters dated the 4th and 10th instant, Nos. 1 and 3, your Honourable Committee will perceive that the camp of the ex-Raja of Sattara had reached Copergaum en route to Benares, on the 27th ultimo, Chikelwal on the 4th instant, and would arrive at Dhoolia on the 8th instant.

3. With reference to the first and ninth paragraphs of our despatch dated the 31st ultimo, we beg to transmit to your Honourable Committee copy of a letter from the Secretary with the Right Honourable the Governor General of India, dated the 19th ultimo, in which it is observed that his Lordship is happy to learn that the ceremony of installing the present Raja of Sattara passed off in so satisfactory a manner, and that his Highness has shewn indications of an earnest desire to conduct his Government in a manner that will conduce to the welfare of his subjects.

4. In the same letter, his Lordship confirms the arrangement proposed by this Government, of assigning one lac and twenty thousand rupees per annum, of the revenues of the Sattara State, for the support of the ex-Raja and his family, to be payable at Benares monthly in the following proportions :—

	PER MENSEM.	PER ANNUM.
	Rupees.	Rupees.
To the ex-Raja	7,700	92,400
To his first wife	1,000	12,000
To his second wife	800	9,600
To his daughter	500	6,000
Total Rupees	10,000	1,20,000

5. The Right Honourable the Governor General of India has also been pleased to approve of the suggestions made by this Government in the sixth and seventh paragraphs of the letter addressed by our Political Secretary to Mr. Secretary Maddock, under date the 25th November last, on the subject of the claims advanced by the ex-Raja to the money found in deposit in the Sattara Treasury, and to jewels and other property claimed by him, namely, that the whole of the ex-Raja's claims on this head should be declared

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Secret Letter from
Bombay,
29 Jan. 1840.

inadmissible, and the property be considered as appertaining to the Sattara State, and made over to the present Raja, with the exception of the jewels, amounting in value to nearly two lacs of rupees, taken away by the ex-Raja and his ranees, which they will be permitted to retain, a distinct intimation being, at the same time, made to the ex-Raja, that the pension of one lac and twenty thousand rupees, is assigned to himself and family, in satisfaction of all demands whatever against the Sattara Government.

6. With reference to the tenth and twelfth paragraphs of our despatch dated the 31st ultimo, we have the honour of herewith transmitting copy of a letter from the Secretary with the Right Honourable the Governor General of India, dated the 23d ultimo, expressive of the high satisfaction which his Lordship has derived in learning that the Raja has resolved on establishing a Hospital at Sattara, for the benefit of his subjects.

7. In consequence of a requisition made by Dr. Erskine, the medical officer appointed to superintend this Hospital, we have requested the Medical Board to select two Native assistants, and a compounder, from the service of Government, and place them at that officer's disposal, the Raja of Sattara having agreed to be responsible for their pay and every other charge which may be incurred during the time they are attached to the Hospital.

8. We also beg to transmit to your Honourable Committee copy of another letter from Mr. Secretary Maddock, dated the 26th ultimo, conveying the full approval of the Right Honourable the Governor General of India to the arrangements sanctioned by this Government, for assisting the Raja of Sattara in the incorporation of a corps of Seebundees under the superintendence of an European officer, for the particulars of which we beg to refer to the seventeenth and eighteenth paragraphs of our despatch dated the 31st ultimo.

9. In the thirteenth and sixteenth paragraphs of our despatch dated the 31st ultimo, we alluded to certain public works which the Raja of Sattara has stated himself to be desirous of constructing.

10. In reply to a report which we made to the Right Honourable the Governor General of India on this subject, under date the 23d ultimo, we have received a letter from Mr. Secretary Maddock, dated the 6th instant, in which it is observed that his Lordship trusts that the Raja of Sattara will proceed with sufficient caution with the numerous and expensive undertakings to which his Highness's mind appears to be turned, to avoid entailing upon his finances any future embarrassment, from the liberality with which he has promoted measures of improvement and of general benefit at the commencement of his reign.

11. In acknowledging the receipt of the above letter, we have drawn the attention of the Right Honourable the Governor General of India to the ninth paragraph of the minute recorded by our Honourable President, under date the 25th November last, copy of which accompanied our despatch to your Honourable Committee of the 31st ultimo, in which the source is indicated from which the whole of the useful improvements meditated by the Raja are to be effected; from which it will be perceived that no chance exists of the Raja entailing any future embarrassment upon his finances, in consequence of his Highness having undertaken these measures of general improvement and benefit.

We have, &c.

(Signed)

Bombay Castle,
29th January 1840.

J. R. CARNAC,
J. FARISH,
G. W. ANDERSON.

EXTRACT SECRET LETTER FROM BOMBAY,

*Dated 28th February, No. 9 of 1840.*SATTARA
PAPER:Secret Letter
Bombay
28 Feb 18

1. Our last despatch to your Honourable Committee, regarding the affairs of Sattara, is dated the 29th ultimo, No. 3; we now do ourselves the honour of transmitting herewith extracts from the subsequent proceedings of this Government on the same subject.

2. From Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans's despatch, dated the 17th January, No. 5, your Honourable Committee will perceive that, the ex-Raja of Sattara reached Sangy on the 11th ultimo, on the road between Dhoolia and Mhow, *via* the Sindwa Ghat.

Progress of
ex-Raja's journey
towards Bena

3. In his despatch dated the 27th January, No. 10, Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans reports that the ex-Raja's camp was expected to reach Mundleysir, on the 21st ultimo.

4. As the Resident at Indore, in a letter to the address of Lieutenant Cristall, agent with the ex-Raja of Sattara, forming an enclosure to Lieutenant Colonel Ovans's despatch dated the 28th January, No. 11, represented that it would be very objectionable for the ex-Raja with his numerous followers to take up their quarters in the Mhow cantonment, it was determined that he should proceed by the direct road from Mundleysir towards Sangur, which station he was expected to reach on or about the 18th instant.

5. The arrival of the ex-Raja at Sunrole, on the 25th ultimo, is reported in the despatch from the Resident at Sattara, dated the 3d instant, No. 13.

6. From Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans's despatch, dated the 4th instant, No. 15, your Honourable Committee will perceive, that Balla Sahib Senaputtee, the confidant of the ex-Raja and the active participator in his various intrigues, died near Zillore on the 27th ultimo, en route to Benares.

Death of
Sahib Senaput

7. The deceased having signified his wish to accompany the ex-Raja to Benares, he was permitted to do so by Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans, under the authority conveyed to that officer, in the eighth paragraph of our Political Secretary's letter, dated the 21st November last, a copy of which was forwarded for the information of your Honourable Committee, with our letter, dated the 31st of the same month, No. 134.

8. We beg to refer your Honourable Committee to Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans's letter, dated the 5th instant, No. 16, and to its enclosure, being translation of a *puad* received from "Dinkur Row Mohiteh," praying to be permitted to join the ex-Raja of Sattara at Benares.

Dinkur Row
Mohiteh permitted
to proceed to Bena
to join the ex-R

9. It will be in the recollection of your Honourable Committee, that this person was deeply implicated in the intrigues carried on at Sattara by the ex-Raja, and was in consequence placed in confinement by the British Government; but on the deposition of the ex-Raja, a pardon was granted to him, in common with all the other participators in these guilty designs, and he was set at large, as reported to your Honourable Committee in our despatch dated the 7th of October, No. 114 of 1839.

10. Since that time, Dinkur Row Mohiteh has been living quietly at the village of Gowey, near Sattara; and his Highness the Raja had determined, in consequence of the reduced state of his circumstances, to give him an allowance for his support; but as he wishes to leave Sattara, we have permitted him to do so, and have authorized Lieutenant-Colonel Ovans to furnish that individual with a passport explaining who he is.

11. With reference to the fifth paragraph of our despatch dated the 29th ultimo, No. 3, regarding the claims advanced by the ex-Raja to the money found in deposit in the Sattara Treasury, and to jewels and other property claimed by him, we beg to draw your Honourable Committee's attention to

Property claim-
ed by the ex-R
transferred to
present Raja of
Sattara.

Lieutenant-

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Letter from
Bombay,
28 Feb. 1840.

Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens's communication, dated the 3d February 1840, from which it will be seen that the property in question has been duly transferred to his Highness the present Raja of Sattara.

We have, &c.

(Signed)

J. R. CARNAC,
THOS. M'MAHON,
J. FARISH,
G. W. ANDERSON.

Bombay Castle,
28th February 1840.

Letter from
Bombay,
30 April 1840

SECRET LETTER FROM BOMBAY,

Dated 30th April, No. 13, 1840.

1. Our last despatch to the Honourable the Secret Committee, regarding the affairs of Sattara, is dated the 28th February last, No. 9, and, agreeably to the intention expressed in the last paragraph thereof, we now do ourselves the honour of transmitting to your Honourable Court extracts from the subsequent proceedings of this Government, on the same subject.

Progress of the ex-
Raja's journey to-
wards Benares, and
his arrival at that
place.

2. In the 5th paragraph of our despatch above alluded to, we stated that the camp of the ex-Raja of Sattara had arrived at Sumole, on the 20th January last, en route to Benares.

3. In his despatch dated the 27th February last, No. 25, Lieutenant Colonel Ovens reports that the ex-Raja's camp was at Ghanspoo, on the 14th of that month, and that it had halted there in consequence of a severe accident which had happened on the same day to Yeswunt Rao Goojur, the son-in-law of the ex-Raja, by the bursting of a matchlock with which he was shooting at some object in a tank, close to the encampment. Two wounds inflicted in the head were declared to be of a most dangerous nature, but we are happy to report that we have been subsequently informed that the young man has recovered from the effects of this serious accident.

4. From Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens's despatches noted in the margin, your Honourable Court will perceive that the camp of the ex-Raja reached the following stages on the dates mentioned opposite each, namely —

Saugor	...	...	...	...	19th February,
Hindowarah	...	...	...	...	1st March
Rewah	...	...	...	...	11th Ditto
Mirzapoor	...	...	...	...	21st Ditto

5. The arrival of the ex-Raja and suite at Benares on the 25th ultimo, is reported in Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens's despatch dated the 6th instant, No. 124, and from its accompaniment, being copy of a communication from Lieutenant Cristall, Agent with the ex-Raja, it will be seen that that officer has received instructions from the Government of India to make over charge of the ex-Raja to Captain Carpenter, at Benares, and then to consider himself at liberty to return to his own Presidency.

Lieutenant Cristall called upon to furnish a detailed account of his route from Sattara to Benares.

6. We have requested the Resident at Sattara to inform Lieutenant Cristall that, in the event of his having kept any notes of his journey, Government is desirous of being furnished with a detailed account of his route from Sattara to Benares, accompanied by remarks on the state of the roads, and the facilities met with in obtaining carriage, and supplies at the different stages.

Chintamun Chit-
Bhattee, Wissa-
c Venkatesh She-
77, and Yeswunt
Jalhar per-
ceeded
to

7. We beg to refer your Honourable Court to Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens's letter dated the 26th February last, No. 24, and to its enclosure, being translation of a communication from his Highness, the present Raja of Sattara, on the

3d March, No. 27; 14th Ditto, No. 99; 24th Ditto, No. 109; 4th Ditto, No. 123, of 1840

the subject of three *yads* received by his Highness from Chintamun Chitko Bhattay, Wissajee Venktesh Shevrey, and Yeswunt Rao Mulhar, requesting permission to proceed on a pilgrimage to Benares.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Secret Letter fr-
Bombay,
30 April 1840.

8. Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens states, that these three individuals, who are familiarly known as Bhintopunt Bhattay, Wissajee Punt Shevrey, and Babajee Chitnaves (the younger brother of Bulwunt Row Chinavees), were latterly the confidential advisers of the ex-Raja of Sattara, in all his intrigues, and that consequently, his Highness the present Raja, is anxious to ascertain the opinion of the British Government regarding their application, although his Highness himself has no objection to acceding to their wishes.

9. In reply, we have informed the Resident at Sattara, that, as there appears to exist no objection to a compliance with the request preferred by the three individuals in question, they may be permitted to proceed to Benares.

10. We take this opportunity of informing your Honourable Court, that a bund or body of plunderers has recently assembled within the Sattara territory; we are as yet uninformed of the particulars of its formation, or the objects which the parties had in view. An inquiry is, however, in progress, and we shall hereafter have the honour of submitting a full report on the subject for the information of your Honourable Court.

11. The assemblage of this bund was first brought to the notice of our President, and we are happy to state that under his instructions, communicated through the Resident, the bund was easily dispersed by his Highness the Raja's own troops, without any aid being required from the British Government, and that about seventy-five of the insurgents, including the supposed leader, calling himself Chuttoor Sing, have been apprehended. We annex copy of a proclamation, which has come into our possession, which is alleged to have been issued by the impostor Chuttoor Sing, on his raising the standard of rebellion, at a place called Kurrar Pette, within the Sattara territory.

12. In the mean time, in consequence of the exaggerated reports (as they afterwards appeared) which were received at the Presidency, from the Magistrate at Rutnagheery of the formidable nature of this rising, and the alarm it had created, we were induced, as a measure of precaution, to send a detachment of 150 Native Infantry, in the Honourable Company's steamer *Hugh Lindsay*, to Sungumeshwar, and a detachment of 100 Native Infantry was likewise dispatched from Belgaum, by the civil authority in charge of that district, to aid in restoring tranquillity.

13. We are happy, however, to state that the services of neither of these detachments were found necessary, the Raja, as above stated, having before their arrival succeeded in dispersing the insurgents; they will therefore be recalled. But your Honourable Court will not fail to observe in this instance, another practical proof of the value of our steamers, in enabling the Government to transport with expedition, troops to a distance whenever the peace of the country may be endangered, the *Hugh Lindsay* having conveyed the detachment to Zyghur and returned to Bombay in the short space of three days.

We have, &c.,

Bombay Castle,
30th April 1840.

(Signed)

J. FARISH,
G. W. ANDERSON,

SATTARA
PAPERS.

SECRET LETTER FROM THE GOVERNOR GENERAL.

*Dated 13th January, No. 3, 1840.*Secret Letter
in the Governor
General,
13 Jan. 1840.

In continuation of the subject of my despatch No. 42, dated 7th November last, I have the honour to transmit for the information of your Honourable Committee, the copy of a letter addressed by me to the Government of Bombay, relative to the measures adopted by the present Raja since his installation. I have no doubt that all the previous correspondence on this subject will already have been communicated to your Honourable Committee by that Government, and thus it will have been gratifying to your Honourable Committee to observe the liberal spirit with which his Highness appears to be actuated in those measures of improvement and general utility which have distinguished the commencement of his reign. It augurs well for his future good government of the country, and I trust that the liberality of his disposition may be so tempered by sound judgment and a correct calculation of his income, as may keep his finances secure from any risk of future embarrassment.

(Signed) AUCKLAND.

Camp at Gwalior,
13th January, No. 3, 1840.Court of Directors,
26 Aug. 1840.

AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Held on Wednesday the 26th August 1840.

Paragraphs for Bombay in the Political Department regarding the affairs of Sattara, which were laid before the Court on the 19th inst., being read, it was moved,

“That this Court approve the said paragraphs.”

Whereupon it was proposed to amend the motion by leaving out all the words after the word “That,” for the purpose of substituting the following :

“The paragraphs be recommitted, and in the mean time, that the Court adopt measures for obtaining the opinion of counsel on the legal claims of the ex-Raja on the property alluded to.”

And the question, that the words proposed to be left out stand part of the question, being put to the ballot, the same passed in the affirmative.

It was then proposed, and, on the question resolved, to amend the question by adding to it the words, “Omitting the words, and being, in fact, inconsistent with the nature of an absolute monarchy.”

District Political
Despatch to the
Government of
Bombay,
2 Sept. 1840.EXTRACT POLITICAL DESPATCH TO THE GOVERNMENT OF
BOMBAY,*Dated 2d September, No. 16, 1840.*

1. We now reply to the communications noted in the margin, relating to the affairs of Sattara.*

2. We regret to learn the death of Balla Sahib Senaputtee, while accompanying the ex-Raja on his way to Benares.

3. We

* Secret letters dated 29th January (No. 3), 28th February (No. 9), 1840. Political letter, dated 30th April (No. 13) 1840. Secret letter from Governor General, dated 13th January (No. 3) 1840.

3. We cannot pass without an expression of our serious displeasure, the following statement by Lieutenant Cristall, the officer in charge of the ex-Raja.

"He (the Senaputtee) had been unwell it appears a few hours before leaving our last ground, but I received no intelligence of his illness until yesterday mid-day, when several of the Raja's people waited on me, requesting a halt, as the Senaputtee was in so dangerous a state that he could not be moved. *I gave a denial to the request*, imagining it only an excuse for loitering on the road, knowing by experience how great is their dislike to our system of continuing the journey on which we are bound. The tents, &c., which are daily sent in advance, were accordingly dispatched, but at three o'clock P.M., the Carcoons and others of the ex-Raja's people came to me with the news of the Senaputtee's death."

4. We infer from the statement respecting the tents, that both the first intimation to Lieutenant Cristall of the Senaputtee's illness, and his subsequent death, occurred during the usual mid-day halt, and that consequently the fatal event was in no degree accelerated by Lieutenant Cristall's rejection of the request made to him. It moreover appears, from his subsequent explanations, that on the first information he received that the illness was dangerous, he offered the aid of the medical officer in charge of the detachment (who was not actually present, but was to rejoin the camp the same evening), which, however, was declined. Nevertheless, we cannot consider Lieutenant Cristall to have been justified in taking for granted that the representation of the Senaputtee's unfitness to travel was without foundation. In the absence of the medical officer he ought either to have consented to the halt, or to have requested a personal interview with the patient, and formed his judgment thereupon.

5. We desire that the sentiments we have expressed may be communicated to Lieutenant Cristall.

6. We approve the allowance of 1,20,000 rupees per year, which has been made for the ex-Raja's support. We think that his claim to the treasure and jewels in the palace, as private property distinct from the property of the state, was untenable, such a distinction not being ordinarily recognized in Native states. The property has, therefore, been rightly adjudged to the present Raja, with the exception of jewels, of the value of about two lacs, which had been actually carried away by the ex-Raja and his ranees, and which they have very properly been allowed to retain.

We are

Your loving friends,

(Signed)

W. B. BAYLEY,

G. LYALL,

&c. &c. &c.

London,
2d September 1840.

AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Court of Directors
2 Sept. 1840

Held on Wednesday, the 2d September 1840,

John Shepherd, Esq., a Member of this Court, delivered in a Dissent from the Court's Resolution of the 26th ultimo, approving the proposed paragraphs to India in the Political Department, regarding the affairs of Sattara: the same was read.

DISSENT.

Dissent.

It is with painful feelings that I record my dissent from the resolution of the Court, approving of the despatch (draft 553) in the Political Department on the affairs of Sattara.

Five months have elapsed since we received the official accounts of the confiscation of the ex-Raja's property, and the transfer of it to his brother. The delay that has taken place in noticing so important a proceeding,

SATTARA PAPERS.

Court of Directors,
2 Sept, 1840.

Dissent.

had induced me to hope that the authorities in this country were hesitating as to the propriety of confirming it. I trusted, at all events, that, upon a question of such moment, involving the rights of individuals in property to a large amount, and in which the East-India Company are parties concerned, the Court would not have been called upon to decide, without first having the advantage of the opinions of their law officers with respect to the legal claims of the ex-Raja of Sattara.

This course appeared to me to be the more necessary, from what had occurred at Bombay, where a question respecting a ship belonging to the ex-Raja had been submitted by the Government for the opinion of the Advocate-General, whose decision, if right as regards the ship, must apply with equal force to the Raja's treasure, jewels, and other property.

Appa Sahib, the successor to the throne, had put forward his claim to the ship as belonging to the State of Sattara: the Advocate-General, in his written opinion, states that the present Raja of Sattara (*viz.* Appa Sahib) "has no interest whatever in this vessel; there is no such thing," he goes on to say, "as state property in a country ruled over by an absolute prince, unless religious edifices may be so considered." He then proceeds to justify this opinion, by quoting part of Lord Tenterden's argument when giving judgment in the case of the East-India Company *versus* Amerchund, the Poona bankers. His Lordship stated, that he had the concurrence of the other Lords of the Council, in saying, "that when you are speaking of the property of an absolute sovereign, there is no pretence for drawing a distinction; the whole of it belongs to him as sovereign, and he can dispose of it for his public or private purposes in whatever manner he may think proper." The Advocate-General also states, that "unless the British Government at the time of dethroning the late Raja of Sattara, distinctly made over all his property and effects to the present ruler, or unless they have done so since, no interest in the vessel in question has by any act become vested in his Highness. Undoubtedly it was competent to the British Government to do this, or even to confiscate to their own use all the property of the ex-Raja, but they have forborne to do the latter, and have not yet done the former." Thus it would appear, that while the Advocate-General admits the power of Government to confiscate, he acknowledges the legality of the claim of the ex-Raja; the power of the Government in such a case, he says, "has no limit beyond its own sense of humanity and wisdom."

At this period, the 7th November, two months after the deposition of the Raja, it would appear that no steps had been taken for the confiscation of the property. Not only was there no allusion to such a measure of punishment in the proclamation of the 5th September, but, on the contrary, a few days previously, a distinct pledge was given by the Governor of Bombay, under his own hand, dated the 30th August 1839,* that on the Raja's peaceable submission, all property belonging to him *bond fide* private, and not appertaining to the state, should not be interfered with; and further, that the Raja was to be treated as an object of sympathy, not punishment.

Here we have professions at least of the humanity and wisdom, which the Advocate-General suggests as the limit to the Government's power.

The Raja did submit peaceably; and confiding in the assurances conveyed to him through the Resident, he left in the palace the whole of his treasure, and other property, with the exception of the jewels belonging to his two ranees, estimated at the value of two lacs, which they were permitted to take with

* Extract letter from Sir J. R. Carnac, Governor of Bombay, to Lieutenant-Colonel Ovens, Resident at Sattara, dated 30th August 1839:—

"8. You will be careful to provide in the most effectual manner for the personal comfort and convenience of the Raja and his family, and to require the Sattara Government to furnish everything that may be necessary for their accommodation. He is, in fact, to be regarded and treated as an object of sympathy, and not of punishment. You will inform him that he will be permitted to reside within the Honourable Company's territories at such place as may be selected by the Right Honourable the Governor General of India, and that an annual allowance will be assigned from the Sattara revenues for the support and respectability of himself and those members of his family who may choose to accompany him. Further, that all property belonging to him *bond fide* private, and not appertaining to the state, will, on his peaceable submission, not be interfered with."

with them, and which the Court state that they were very properly allowed to retain.

The melancholy result of the Government's professions, and the Raja's confidence, has been the confiscation and transfer of the whole of his property to his successor.

The Court take no notice of any of these details, the despatch, as it now stands, simply approves of the rejection of the ex-Raja's claim, as being one "not ordinarily recognised in Native States," and that therefore, the property has been rightly adjudged to the present Raja.

I am not prepared from personal knowledge to controvert what is here alleged to be the ordinary usage in Native States, but the result of my inquiries of gentlemen who have filled high and responsible situations in India under the Company, justifies me in questioning it; certain I am, however, that no such usage can be established without resolving itself into an act of oppression and spoliation,—the simple principles of justice cannot be destroyed by any precedent whatever. The Raja was to be treated "as an object of sympathy, not of punishment." He received also the pledge of the Governor, that his private property should not be interfered with; can any usage or precedent justify the breach of this promise?

But to return to the ground assumed by the Bombay Government, that the whole of the property was State property. Had, then, the Raja no private property whatever?

I have quoted the Advocate General's opinion on that point, and I would now request particular attention to the Resident of Sattara's letter dated the 28th September 1839, which states there were about seven lacs of rupees in hard cash, and about seven or eight lacs' worth of jewels and other valuables in the palace. In the eleventh paragraph of his letter he says, "the whole of this property is claimed by the ex-Raja, but Appa Sahib Maharaj (his successor) maintains, that about five or six lacs of the money is State property, and private property belonging to him, and also about two lacs' worth of jewels, and that the remainder only belongs to the ex-Raja and the ladies of his family."

Here we have the express admission of the validity of the ex-Raja's claims from the party most interested in opposing them. He who was to be the possessor of all the property that could be designated State property, reluctantly admits "that the remainder," amounting to about two lacs of hard cash, and six lacs' worth of jewels, belonged to the ex-Raja, and the ladies of his family.

It is scarcely necessary to dwell longer on this point. Colonel Ovens, the Resident of Sattara, to whose letter I have been alluding, forwards along with it two *yads* from the ex-Raja, in which is enumerated the various articles of property as per margin.*

From

* Extract substance of four accompaniments to two *yads* from the ex-Raja of Sattara, under date the 14th September 1839:—

2. The money value of the buildings, &c., which are here, should come to	Rs. 4,77,500	0	0
3. The expenses incurred for the gardens	76,400	0	0
4. For the building of the Rung Mahal	5,000	0	0
5. Glass furniture	1,00,000	0	0
6. Chariots, buggies, &c.	27,200	0	0
7. Looking-glasses	1,65,200	0	0
8. Four guns belonging to Khasgu, with their bullocks	24,000	0	0
	Rs. 8,75,300	0	0

The other items to be sold by auction, and their money value to be received, are—

1. The herd of cattle
2. The flock of sheep and goats.
3. After stating such number of the cattle at Sattara as may be required, the rest is to be sold.
4. Sherics, 5 gardens, and the bullocks belonging to the gardens.
5. Four Ambarees, the apparatus of palkeen pato (stools), vessels, wooden ware, devaras (frames for idols), chorungs (square stools), chowpolas (swinging seats), chairs, couches, cupboards, the apparatus appertaining to elephants and horses, and the iron and other stock belonging to the Rotee are to be sold by auction.

SATTARA
PAPERS.

Part of Directors

2 Sept. 1840.

Dissent.

From the general tenor of the Resident's letter, in which he describes in paragraphs seven and eight, the manner in which the ex-Raja had accumulated his savings, viz., by appropriating a stated sum for the private expense of himself and family, and laying aside the balance which he either allowed to accumulate, or expended in jewels, it is evident that the Resident expected that some inquiry would be instituted as to what portion was, and what was not, the private property of the ex-Raja.

In the sixteenth paragraph of his letter he says, "should the principle be admitted by the Government, it must then be ascertained by reference to the accounts. First, What money or property had been *bond fide* saved out of the family allowances; and secondly, What portion of this actually belongs to the ex-Raja, and what portion of it to his brother?"

There can be no question, indeed, but that the treasure and jewels found in the palace were the fruits of the economical management of the Raja's resources.

Unlike the generality of Native princes, he had governed his people with prudence and moderation, and restrained his own expenses within the limits of his income.

The Bombay Government decided, however, on the 25th November, that the ex-Raja's claims were inadmissible, that the property should be made over to the present Raja, and that the ex-Raja be informed that the pension of one lac and twenty thousand rupees is assigned to himself and his family in satisfaction of all demands whatever on the Government of Sattara.

This decision was referred to the Governor General of India, who replied, on the 19th December, "that he has no objection to offer to the decision of the Hon. the Governor of Bombay, with respect to the property claimed by the ex-Raja."

Such is likely to be the climax of the unhappy Raja's fate,—a prince who had been for many years, and up to a very late period, the deserving object of the Court's and the Government's highest favour and admiration.

Stripped

Memorandum of Property in Deposit in the Palace:—

Total amount first forthcoming as per Mahratta statement, No. 60	Rs. 7,73,791	7	6
From this the following sums were taken out:—			
By the ex-Raja to Nimb	Rs. 32,500	0	0
By the Rance to Nimb...	29,811	6	0
Expended by the Rance at Sattara	1,000	0	0
Expenses of the different Karkhanas at Sattara	2,369	13	0
Taken by Kessowcon for expenses	27,269	0	0
	92,950	3	0
	6,80,841	4	6
Received from different persons in Sattara to whom advances were made	7,000	0	0
Total amount in cash now in deposit in the palace	6,87,841	4	6
Due from Rajaram and Hurydass of Sattara	25,000	0	0
Amount claimed from Kasseedars Annundram, of Poona, Gomasta of Dryaram Atmaram	31,000	0	0
	Rs. 7,43,841	4	6
The jewels and valuables, including clothes in deposit, as per Mahratta statement No. 75, estimated at	3,11,267	1	3
But of these there are several on which no valuation has taken place.			
The jewels, &c., taken to Nimb by the ex-Raja as per Mahratta statement No. 75	47,868	1	0
The jewels, &c., taken to Nimb by the two Rances are entered into Mahratta statements Nos. 40 and 54	Supposed to be about 1½ lacs		
Estimated value of the jewels recovered from Rajaram and Hurydass of Sattara, as per H. H.'s <i>gud</i> No. 91, under date 13th November 1839	57,000	0	0
Total estimated value of jewels, valuables, &c., exclusive of those on which no valuation has been placed	Rs. 4,16,135	2	3

Stripped of his title and his property, he is now the degraded pensioner of that brother who assisted in his overthrow.

If it was an object of policy to deprive him of his throne, that object had been accomplished, his refusal to acknowledge himself guilty of treachery, and to sign the conditions prescribed by the Government could not possibly justify the confiscation of his property.

It is impossible to conceive that any additional security is obtained by this extreme measure of severity. The possession of four or five lacs of rupees (10 or 50,000 pounds) could not render him dangerous to the Government, placed as he is under the surveillance of our authorities at Benne, many hundred miles distant from his own country. But even this objection admitting it to be one, might have been obviated by the Government returning his property at the usual rate of interest in lieu of an instalment for the benefit of him and his family.

To maintain, therefore, it appears that once the title and transfer of property to the present Peshwa is complete, it is a full settlement of the matter. Prince Bawa would be obliged to withdraw his army. Indeed, the declaration of a private feud of men of fortune is no more than a fact which the Ruler of the Government is entitled to all our respect. The only question of the Government would be that they shall be deprived of it by the judgment of a court of law, if it is so.

If I lamented the extreme measure of his deposition, more properly do I lament the degradation of it. It is the great prerogative of the Home Authorities to hold the balance between our Local Governments and the Natives of India. Removed from the scene of action, they can review with dispassionate calmness the conduct and movements of the actors, and whilst they are bound to afford every proper support to their own servants, it is equally their sacred duty to protect the Native subjects and to withhold their sanction from acts of oppression and injustice.

Since I have held the honour of a seat in the Direction, it has been the usual practice of the Court to exhibit their powers principally by acts of clemency and kindness to the Natives of India—would that this feeling had predominated in the case of the helpless and unfortunate Raja of Sattar. His degradation, however, seems to be now consummated and connected as I am with the Court, there is left to me but one consolatory reflection, viz., that of being able to disavow any share in its present proceedings.

(Signed) JOHN SMITHARD

Last India House
29th August 1840

SATTAR
PAPERS.

Court of Directors
2 Sept. 1840
Dissent

